

the Bullet

Volume 75, No. 12

Mary Washington College's student newspaper since 1922.

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By PORTSIA SMITH

Staff Writer

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often necessary," Chirico said.

According to Rick Hurley, executive vice president and chief financial officer, the program was under question just over a year ago. He said the main concern was that the college spends \$25,000 a year to fund it but not many of the participants attend Mary Washington College after completion of the program.

The staff of the Multicultural Center said the goal of the program was to encourage select college-bound Fairfax County public school students to attend any college, not necessarily Mary Washington College.

Last summer, 53 students participated in Project SOAR. As of Fall 2001, the program had a 96 percent success rate of getting these students to attend an educational institution, but only five SOAR students have applied to Mary Washington College this year.

Hurley said the goal seems to be a luxury in times of tight financial needs.

"I want to increase the college retention rate, but not at my college's expense," Hurley said.

This is not the first time college officials' decisions regarding multiculturalism have sparked controversy. Last year, a decision to

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"We are a fairly well to do school, and I think ▶ see CUT, page 2



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A Notable Absence

Psychology Students, Faculty Cope With Professor's Death

By ABBIE MACATUNO

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Currently, members of the department are doing their part to figure out what needs to be done.

"It's a huge loss," said Steve Hampton, Psychology

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Unfulfilled Tech Requirements Will Keep Freshmen From Registering

By KEVIN THOMPSON

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Freshmen students may be unable to register for classes next semester, due to the new computer proficiency requirements that have taken effect this academic year.

The new guidelines, created by the Instructional Technology Committee, call for students to be proficient in the four areas of word processing, spreadsheets, email and

library searching skills before they can register for classes next fall. If the students have not completed the requirements by the deadline, the students will be blocked from registering.

The most recent results from Assistant Director of Instructional Technology Pamela Lowery indicate that most freshmen have not completed these requirements.

"About 20.3 percent have completed the program, 53.2 percent have completed the email portion, and 29.6 percent have not completed [any areas of] the program," Lowery said. "The deadline for the students to complete it will probably be cut off after spring break. If it's not completed by then, their registration [for classes] will be blocked by the computer."

Many freshmen said that they are against the proficiency requirement because of the work involved and the deadline set to finish it. Jen Johnson, who has not completed all of the requirements, said that the new policy is ineffective.

"I do not like them at all," she said. "They take a very long time and I don't find them all that helpful."

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Freshman Meredith Munoz works on a computer in Trinkle Hall.

College Employees Must Now Wear I.D. Badges In Dorms

By ALBERT KUGEL

Assistant News Editor

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Mary Washington College Police Director Stanley Beger said the I.D. badges will help to keep intruders out of residence halls.

"The I.D. badges are part of a safety issue," Beger said. "There has been a number of incidents over the years where things end up missing. A lot of times, intruders follow students in."

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Bernard Chirico said there was not one specific problem that led to the use of I.D. badges.

"It's important to realize this had nothing to do with Sept. 11," Chirico said. "We're always trying to maintain the security of the college, and that means we have to make the campus as safe as possible."

Chirico also said the badges are

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Alyssa Best/Bullet

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Campus Lead Worker Dean Rush working on Ball Circle.

Police Beat

By CAROLYN MURRAY
Assistant News Editor



Dec. 6—A Resident Assistant in Russell Hall confiscated six bottles and 12 cans of Miller Light beer. Two students, both under 21, were referred to the administration.

Dec. 6—An incident of petit larceny took place between 9 and 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 5, according to police. A student left a shoulder bag in the women's bathroom on the first floor of Jepson. The bag had a wallet, a geology textbook, \$50 in U.S. currency, a Visa card and an American Express card, with a total value of \$167. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 8—At 10:29 p.m., a Resident Assistant in Westmoreland noticed a student in the Westmoreland parking lot behaving strangely. The underage student told police that she had consumed alcohol and had taken Valium. She was referred to the administration and sent to Mary Washington Hospital for treatment, police said.

Dec. 11—An incident of petit larceny from Melchers Hall was reported. A student's personal CD player, valued at \$50, and headphones, valued at \$25, were taken sometime between 5 p.m. and 2 a.m. on Dec. 10, police said. The student left the items in a box in an unlocked classroom and returned to find the box missing. An officer found the box in the grass outside Ridderhof-Martin Gallery, but the CD player has not been found. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 11—At 9:30 p.m., an incident of arson in Marshall Hall was reported. A Resident Assistant smelled burning material and found a Proctor-Silex toaster in one of the kitchens of the residence hall caught on fire. After unplugging the appliance and immersing it in water, the Resident Assistant called the police. When officers arrived, the appliance was still smoking and glowing orange. It had been stuffed with paper towels three inches thick, police said. The safety department was notified and officers interviewed nine students about the incident. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 13—An unknown number of tokens were reported as missing from the Wash Room of the student center, according to police. The tokens were delivered on Nov. 12, but the college officials did not know of the delivery until they received a bill. The case is under investigation.

Dec. 16—A Resident Assistant in Willard Hall checking the rooms of the building at lockdown found alcoholic beverages in two vacated rooms on the third floor, police said. The case was referred to the administration.

Dec. 28—Sometime between Dec. 27 and 12:30 a.m. Dec. 28, damage to state property occurred. An officer doing routine checks of Trinkle Hall saw the window in the stairwell on the Lee Hall side landing between the first and second floor was damaged. The inner part of the window, which measures 5 feet by 5 feet, was broken. The value of the glass is unknown, but estimated at \$100, police said. All the doors to the building were locked. The case is under investigation.

Jan. 5—At approximately 7 p.m., an officer stopped a man riding one bike and

pushing another. Alexander Lenell Scott of Fredericksburg said that the 27-inch Fisher bike he was riding was his and the woman's Huffy bike he was pushing belonged to his wife. Police called Scott's wife, who said that neither of them owned bikes. The bikes were valued at \$150. Scott was arrested and charged with larceny and trespassing. He was referred to the Fredericksburg Magistrate's Office and released on \$500 bond. His date of arraignment was Jan. 15.

Jan. 8—A student reported the loss of a 27-inch Rawley bike, sometime between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m. The bike was left unlocked outside the campus center. The case is under investigation.

Jan. 11—At 11:30 p.m., Kelly E. Wells, 19, a student at the University of Maryland was found intoxicated outside of Randolph Hall. She was not cooperative and was getting sick in the parking lot. A student told police that Wells had vomited five times. Wells said she had five to six shots of rum at a fraternity house. She was taken to Mary Washington Hospital. No charges were pressed.

Jan. 12—A missing Fisher bike was recovered. A student came by the station to report the loss of his bike, which was one of the bicycles Alexander Scott had been found with earlier by police.

Jan. 12—A student from Willard Hall reported the theft of a silver ladies 10-speed bike. The bike was chained through the tire, and the tire was left but the frame was gone. The case is under investigation.

Jan. 13—At 2:31 a.m., an incident of trespassing occurred in Combs Hall. According to police, unknown persons removed a section of the construction fence around the building and entered through the rear doors, which were unlocked. The individuals then stood on the roof of the building and yelled to students on the front porch of Jefferson Hall. College and Fredericksburg police came to the scene with a dog and searched the building. No one was found, but there were two sets of fingerprints and footprints. The case is under investigation.

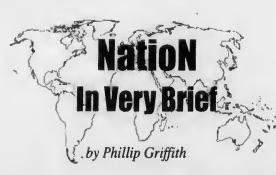
Jan. 13—An incident of alcohol confiscation in New Hall occurred. A Resident Assistant knocked on a door to return an I.D. to someone in the room. The individual in the room opened the door with a beer in his hand. The alcohol was confiscated, and the student was referred to the administration.

Jan. 14—A 19-inch black, and red Trek 21-speed bike, valued at \$770 was taken from the first floor hallway of Randolph Hall sometime between 8 p.m. Jan. 13 and 10 a.m. Jan. 14. The bike was parked inside the building. The case is under investigation.

Jan. 19—At 2:38 a.m., a Resident Assistant in Russell Hall confiscated 12 cans of Natural Light beer from an underage resident. The student was referred to the administration.

Jan. 19—At 3:03 a.m., an intoxicated and passed out student from New Hall was taken to Night Haven, police said. The student was referred to the administration.

Jan. 20—At approximately 7 p.m., an officer stopped a man riding one bike and



Public Information May Be Limited In Virginia, Maryland

Virginia and Maryland, as well as other states, have proposed legislation that seeks to limit public information as part of heightened security measures after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, The Washington Post reports. In Virginia, the proposed law would prevent public access to architecture drawings of public buildings and would allow government officials to "privately discuss terrorism prevention." Similar proposals are taking place in five other states, which have sparked criticism from journalists. However, government officials claim this will not lead to more secrecy. "We're not interested in creating a blanket for bureaucrats to protect information," said a spokesman for Maryland's governor.

Some Feel College Made SOAR Decision

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"we can afford it," Hanson said. "We can cut something else or cut nothing."

Hanson attended a meeting in October 2001 with Hurley and others involved in Project SOAR to discuss the benefit of the program to Mary Washington College and whether it is worth continuing. In December, college administrators decided to end the program.

Ameeta Vashee, director of Project SOAR and director of Multicultural Affairs and the James Farmer Multicultural Center, hoped to use the lost funding from the program to enhance and develop other diversity-related programs. Currently, the Multicultural Center has to offset the costs of programs by obtaining funds from student organizations and from other offices.

Vashee said that the \$25,000 cost of the program goes toward instructors' salaries, student supplies, transportation costs, residential fees, meals and follow-up activities. Each SOAR student pays a \$15 fee each year to cover some of these expenses during the week.

The students admitted to the program participate in a one-week summer experience at Mary Washington College for three years. The first summer in the program, as ninth-graders, teachers and counselors help the students to discover their academic strengths, skills, and long-term career goals. The second summer

improves the tenth-graders' speaking, writing, and mathematical skills. The third and final summer prepares students for the SATs and guides them through the process of applying for college and financial aid.

According to Vashee, admission to Mary Washington College is guaranteed to Project SOAR students who are highly recommended and graduate in the top half of their class. Students that choose to apply to another institution other than Mary Washington College received help choosing the appropriate college or university.

Some participants of the program come from disadvantaged backgrounds. Many are first generation college students, non-English speaking families, or low-income families.

"This program was a great opportunity for students with families which don't have the means or background to support college attendance," Vashee said.

Vashee said that the Multicultural Center plans to maintain a relationship with the remaining SOAR students. They will host a program in the spring for students in Fairfax and waive the admission fee for any SOAR student who applies.

Susie Lee, SOAR counselor, said she grew extremely close to the SOAR students and thinks that the program was really starting to attract more Mary Washington

College students.

"It is a gradual process," Lee said. "I wish that they could have at least let the freshman complete the rest of the program."

Student Government President Ka Shim said that the school could make the most out of the money instead of thinking it is going to waste. He suggested that the students interact with Summer Leadership students to spark more interest in this campus.

"Summer Leaders could get those students more acclimated to the campus environment by telling them more about student life, clubs, and other activities on campus besides just academics," Shim said.

Project SOAR is not the only student outreach program run by the Multicultural Center and not the first one out.

Greta Franklin, student counselor of the Multicultural Center, said that the Upward Bound program was cut in the summer of 1999 because of a slight glitch with filling out paperwork for the federal grant.

"I understand that programs must cut,

but it seems it's always the minority programs that are getting cut."

Susie Lee, SOAR special collections librarian.

The college will continue to run the state-funded Student Transition Program, which is a six-week summer program that includes academic and social elements that help minority students who have already been accepted to Mary Washington College make the transition to the campus.

Comparable programs like Project SOAR can also be found at other colleges. George Mason's Early Identification Program (EIP) is similar to that of Project SOAR, but EIP is a three-week summer program. Also, students are able to interact with students, faculty, and staff during the school year, and all of the program activities are free to the students.

Freshmen Must Pass New Technology Requirements Or They Won't Register

▲ TECH, page 1

Grant Garber is another freshman who also is opposed to the proficiency program.

"It's pretty ridiculous," Garber said. "It's a lot of busy work that we don't need on top of a lot of other stuff. Most people know how to use a computer by now."

Some freshmen do not protest the proficiency requirements, however. Justin Maurer said he supports the program, even though he has only completed some of the requirements.

"Personally I have no problem meeting the requirements," he said. "It's a good opportunity to learn about these things. It's more helpful than hurtful, really."

Freshmen can complete the requirements through in-class instruction or "test-out" through online tutorials, according to Assistant Director of Instructional Technology Lowery.

"Word processing and the library section are part of English 101, some of the science

courses cover spreadsheets, and the email tutorial is done during student orientation," Lowery said. "All of the requirements, however, can be passed by taking a test online to receive credit."

Students who plan to take the online tutorials must do so through the school's blackboard program, Lowery said.

In Blackboard, the students log in under their user ID, passwords, and can locate the online tutorials under the INTRO 001 section. The online tutorial for each area consists of several web pages that give the student information about the chosen area. At the end of this, the student must complete an online test to show comprehension of the skills that he or she has learned.

Students can access the program through any of the eight computer labs on campus, and must score at least a 75 percent to receive credit for taking the tutorial.

While there have been no costs generated by the program, Lowery said that there is time involved.

"The program was not financially expensive because we already had the tools for Blackboard," Lowery said. "We didn't have to buy a new program. The only major cost is the time and effort involved in setting up the program. Word processing, spreadsheets, and email all have to be graded manually."

David Ayersman, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs for Instructional Technology, said he supports the requirements because of needs that he believes students have and the benefits they can receive.

"We've discovered that it's something that the students want," Ayersman said. "They want to be able to communicate with their parents and friends through email. And another good part about it is that it shows up on their transcripts for future employers."

Ayersman does not see the new requirements as a major change in the curriculum.

"Most students are already proficient in most of these areas," Ayersman said. "The email tutorial was not already a part of student orientation. The requirements are just making it more serious. It's not just an option now."

The new requirements were first approved by the Instructional Technology Committee and the Mary Washington College Faculty in April of 1999 but have not been used until this year due to the time and effort needed to set up the program.

New Badge Policy To Improve Safety

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designed to raise awareness in the dorms.

"This is no way makes the dorms fool proof [from intruders]," Chirico said. "It only raises the level of consciousness among the students."

Police Director Beger said the I.D. badges look just like students' EagleOne cards and contractors who enter the building will have a card that says "contractor" on it in a red box.

Beger said that personnel will be to wear the I.D. tags in a couple of ways.

"The I.D. badges will either be secured by an alligator clip or a lanyard," Beger said.

A small committee was created to implement the I.D. badges and raise awareness among the students. Dean of Student Life Cedric Rucker headed the committee.

"The committee consisted of a group of students and administrators," Rucker said. "It just dealt with how the plan would work and how to tell students about it."

The committee decided to hang posters in the residence halls to not only let students know about the new badges, but also emphasize safety.

"The posters will reiterate things like not blocking open doors in the residence halls," Rucker said.

The committee tested out the I.D. badges by giving them to Mary Washington College Facilities Services workers after Thanksgiving.

Assistant Vice President for Facilities Services John Wittenmuth said there were no problems with the I.D. badges.

"We started wearing them after Thanksgiving, and besides some employees not yet having an I.D., we didn't run into any significant problems," Wittenmuth said.

Program Support Technician Sylvia Switzer believes the badges are a good precaution for the school.

"I don't mind wearing a badge when I enter a residence hall," said Switzer, who sometimes enters residence halls as a part of her job. "Most places already require workers to wear I.D. badges while working."

Marshall Hall resident Junior Mike Roth said he is happy to see the college's increased security.

"Though I'll still lock my door, I'm glad the administration has instated such a policy," he said.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Bullet did not produce an issue last week due to viruses on all *Bullet* computers. Thus, this semester, there will only be 10 issues instead of the normal 11. However, because of having one less issue, this issue has an extra four pages.

Viewpoints

your opinions

Editorial Diversity Doesn't Matter?

Ah, Mary Washington College, a model of hypocrisy. Hardly a year goes by where some effort to eliminate diversity isn't enforced by the college administration.

After all, what other college advertises its acceptance of diversity so flagrantly and says the name James Farmer at every turn, only to continually stomp out multicultural and minority programs year after year? First, in 1999, the college eliminates the Upward Bound program. Then, just last year, administrators slice up the James Farmer Multicultural center, which is only restored after much student and faculty protest. Now, administrators are bringing another whammy to on-campus diversity, with the elimination of the \$20,000 Project SOAR program.

Quite frankly, in cutting these programs combined with the pattern of events of the past years, the college sends a clear message: diversity doesn't matter, but we'll pretend it does.

It's true that Mary Washington's budget at this time is painfully tight, but \$20,000 is a ridiculously small amount of money for an institution with an operating budget of over \$50 million. Roughly \$5 for each student went to support a program that helped encourage lower income minority children to attend college. While it's true that not every student from Project SOAR chose to attend school here, Mary Washington College at least paid lip service to the causes of encouraging diversity and promoting higher education. However, when budget issues strike, those causes, as noble as they are, are tossed to the wayside, much the same way the Multicultural Center was tossed to Marye House last year.

Attempts to minimize college spending can be found by cutting a little bit from the many different programs and not eliminating one of the few remaining minority programs the college has. If one needs to save \$20,000, why not simply cut the Student Leadership program, which has a budget of in excess of \$100,000 and seems to provide no tangible benefit to the college community. However, administrators chose to target a minority program instead.

One would think college officials would learn from their mistakes, especially after the backlash from students and faculty after moving the Multicultural Center last year, but by cutting another minority program, it seems they haven't. It seems unlikely now though, that college officials ever will learn the importance of diversity, until there isn't any left.

But they probably wouldn't care then anyways.

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Coach Gets Schott Down

ANDREW STURM
Guest Columnist

"I have the right man for the job!" "I have complete confidence in Marty!" That was Daniel Snyder praising Marty Schottenheimer, who Snyder hired in January of 2001.

Marty Schottenheimer was supposed to be this panacea that would cure all the Redskins ills, at least in Snyder's eyes. He was brought in to take the disappointing 8-8 Redskins of 2000 to the Super Bowl in 2001. However, the surprise of no one, the Redskins didn't even make the playoffs.

There are many reasons for this. First off, Marty Schottenheimer was the Redskins' third coach in less than a year (Norv Turner and Terry Robiske being the other two). Ateam cannot gel with a totally different offensive and defensive program in less than a year. There will inevitably be hiccups along the way.

At this time I would like to bring in a very relevant piece of history, so please excuse this tangent. In Joe Gibbs' first season as head coach of the Redskins, the team lost their first five games. Sound familiar? Well maybe this will bring it into focus: the team under Gibbs went onto finish the regular season at 8-8. Sound familiar yet?

The next year Gibbs took his team to the Super Bowl and won it. Sound

familiar? Oh wait, never mind. This doesn't sound familiar anymore because Snyder just fired Schottenheimer. Well, there goes that perfect historical example. I guess we'll never know if Schottenheimer could have repeated history, sorry my history majors.

Another reason that the team didn't fulfill Snyder's delusions of grandeur was due to the fact that Deion Sanders, Dana Stubblefield, Tre Johnson, James Thrash, Larry Centres, and others were let go. This left Marty in the position of putting a scratch team together with a vastly restricted budget.

Yet a third reason is Jeff George and the loss of Brad Johnson. Jeff George is a proven loser. Why did the Redskins replace Brad, who I would like to mention took the Redskins to the second round of the playoffs, with George who has been around the league and never stuck?

Well, Snyder felt that Jeff would be a better fit since they both have mercenary mentalities. Flash forward to the second game in which the Redskins were shutout by Green Bay and Jeff George was released

immediately. Good riddance! However, this left a crucial vacancy at quarterback that was filled in with Tony Banks. Banks played decently during the season but never won the big game and was saved twice by back-up Kent Graham. That spells no playoffs.

We should not feel sorry for Marty Schottenheimer as he walks to the bank to collect his 7.5 million. Talk about a sweet deal. Poor Schottenheimer; he got fired even after he finished with a respectable record, especially considering all the personnel issues that had to be dealt with in the off-season. Thus ends the Schottenheimer era in D.C.

Now the Skins have a new head coach in Steve Spurrier. The person who orchestrated the drumming of the Maryland Terrapins in the Orange Bowl with his high-powered offense. That is the type of team he likes to create: high-powered offense mixed with a decent defense.

There is only one problem. The Redskins current personnel is geared toward executing "Mary Ball," or a

▼ see REDSKINS, page 15

One Nation, Under Space

BETH MILLS
Guest Columnist

I must say I was incredibly happy to hear Nadine Strossen speak last week. I have always respected others' opinions and their rights to practice their faith if they so chose. However, I've never felt this should be done in school because it creates a situation in which children feel isolated and outcast if they don't go along with the majority.

This is a challenge because during childhood we often fear the idea of standing out. Children are not always taught that being different is advantageous. Ever since elementary school I have felt the pains of our schools inability to separate church and state.

Mrs. Strossen's speech reminded me of the day I came home from school, confused about the words of the Pledge of Allegiance. I confronted my mother, confused about why they forced me to say, "one nation, under God," in class. Mom told me to say, "one nation, under space," instead. I felt better about this, though it only took a year at most for the other children to hear my alteration of the pledge, and call me out on it.

Confused about why I was forced to say something I didn't believe, especially in school, I felt isolated and opted to stop saying the Pledge of Allegiance altogether. This is sad, because I do love my country. I love that we have the First Amendment, which protects my freedom to speak my mind. Therefore, it is no mere hyperbole to claim that the separation of church and state has plagued me all my life.

I was saddened that the best patriotic slogan the United States could come up with after September 11th was "God Bless America." Frankly, God is the

▼ see PLEDGE, page 15



Letters to the Editor

Honor Code, Schmonor Code?

Dear Editor:

I am thrilled to live on a campus in which the honor code is present. But there are at least a few people here who have chosen to break the honor code, repeatedly.

Earlier this year I had my bike stolen while it was locked in front of Mason Hall. Was I angry? Of course I was angry, but I could always place the blame on the "townies" and keep my faltering faith in the Mary Washington community. But a few days ago, what faith I had was consumed when my backpack was stolen from Seacockbeck, having inside it my Palm Pilot and two books.

Neither Seacockbeck nor the police have had any sight of such, and after a reasonable waiting period I have lost hope once again. In the brochure given to potential students by the school, more specifically the section entitled "The Honor System: A Way of Life," it even goes so far as to state the we, as students, "appreciate the freedom to leave books and other possessions unattended in the library or dining hall." All totaled, more than one thousand dollars of my personal property have been stolen this year, and now I ask you what it is that the Honor Code does?

Clearly it is not a harsh deterrent from crime, nor does it seem to compel those criminals to "come forth to justice" after the fact of the crime. So either of two possibilities exists here: 1.) That Mary Washington itself is blatantly disregarding their own published literature, or 2.) That Mary Washington is incompetent in enforcing established rules that protect our community.

Neither option is acceptable, so I suggest that we, as the responsible student body, do not take this petty theft

any longer. If you know who is responsible, it is your responsibility to turn them in, not to be a co-conspirator through inaction.

Adam C. Bone
Freshman

SGA's Election Corruption

Dear Editor:

Last week a cabinet member called the SGA Executive Board to an informal meeting in order to determine which members would run for Board positions in the upcoming election, which will be held on Wednesday, February 20.

The outgoing Cabinet members met with their organizations to handpick their successors, prior to releasing names of this year's candidates to the student body. These members discouraged any challengers in order to assure an uncontested election. Already, three or four successors have been decided. In last year's election, only two of the nine available positions on the Executive Board were contested.

The student body can expect a race between two candidates for the position of President. Evidence of several past elections, however, points to the probability that the unselected candidate for President will still obtain the title of Executive Coordinator or another appointed position. SGA's Cabinet members control the results of elections, robbing the student body of its right to participation in the Student Government.

Valerie Leon
Junior

Bullet Letter and Editorial Policy

The Bullet is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them. If there are numerous letters on one subject, a sampling of the best letters will be selected.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and submitted the Monday before publication. All letters and columns are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words. The bullet reserves the right to withhold libelous material.

The Bullet does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, disability, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, sex, age or sexual orientation.

The Bullet will not publish anonymous letters or columns. All letters must be signed, and a phone number and address must be included to facilitate verification of authorship of the letter.

Letters and columns can be mailed to The Bullet at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacock Hall or sent to our email address at bullet@mwc.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Bullet staff. The staff editorial represents the opinions of The Bullet editorial board and not necessarily those of the college, student body or entire Bullet staff.

bullet@mwc.edu

Features

extras about people and places

thumbs



to the new drop/add process



to the snow last weekend



to the bad weather this week



to breakfast sandwiches in Seacobeck on Fridays



to budget cuts for Virginia colleges



to the winter carnival last weekend

in the stars

Aries - A Sagittarian will play an important role in your day. See what's up with him/her. He/she will deliver an important message to you.

Taurus - Never break a promise. People count on you to do what you'll say you'll do. Don't disappoint.

Gemini - Find somewhere to travel to. Take a vacation with someone that you love. Get away from everything.

Cancer - Add some more color to your life. Bright colors will make you feel happier and more energetic.

Leo - Give yourself some added excitement. Allow yourself to breathe the air of freedom. Be a little wild.

Virgo - You deserve the best. If something is not up to your specifications, then search for something that is.

Libra - Smile today. A secret admirer will compliment you on your beautiful smile and appearance.

Scorpio - Don't worry about everyone else's business. Focus on what you need to get done.

Sagittarius - Make sure that you have given yourself enough time to get everything done that you need to get done.

Capricorn - Seek out the company of those who are older than you. You will find them to be very interesting people to converse with.

Aquarius - As an Aquarian you will never show any signs of jealousy.

Pisces - Wear the color of violet today. This is your lucky color.

The Pitter-Patter Of Little Feet

By MELISSA BORGERDING

Staff Writer

Senior Amy Wilson never knew there were rats in the basement of Chandler until she became a psychology department lab aide this semester. Now, Wilson works 10 hours a week watering, feeding and cleaning the cages of 30 to 40 albino lab rats.

"I love working with them," said Wilson, who is eager to talk about the rats. "They're social animals. They like to be held."

Senior Adrienne Hench, also a psychology major, said she enjoys working with the rats.

"I think we really bond with our rats," Hench said.

The rats, kept in a lab in the basement of Chandler, are used for experimentation in upper level psychology classes. While psychology students like Wilson and Hench enjoy working with the rats, not all Mary Washington College students support the psychology department's experiments.

Senior Amy Womack, president of the college's Animal Rights Club, believes there are more sensible alternatives to animal experimentation. According to Womack, the psychology department's experiments are unnecessary.

"These experiments are overdone," Womack said. "It's sort of like reinventing the wheel. These are undergraduate students, so it's not like they're doing anything new. These [experiments] have been done. Students can read about them instead."

Hench disagrees.

"What we're learning from the rats, you can't find in textbooks," she said.

Professor of Psychology David MacEwen teaches Applied Behavioral Analysis, a class in which students work directly with the rats. In his small office in Chandler, every chair and surface covered in stacks of paper, MacEwen talks about the rats as eagerly as his students.

According to MacEwen, each student is assigned a rat and spends the first few weeks of the semester playing with and handling that rat. Students then design experiments for their rats, which may include running their rats through a maze or on a wheel, and sometimes mild shocks. The experiments usually involve memory or learning.

"We do a lot of simple maze experiments, or pressing a lever and getting a little shock or a pellet of food," Hench said.

However, MacEwen said he can understand Womack's point of view.

"I think it's a matter of philosophical difference," MacEwen said. "There are people who just say, well, this should never be done. Well, that's their right to say that, but I don't think they can say we do anything to harm these animals. These rats probably get played with more than most pets."

According to MacEwen, students name their rats and often grow so attached to them that they take their rats home at the end of the semester.

"The rats are like our pets for the semester," said Hench, who named her rat Cecilia. "We play with the rats and let the rats play with each other, and we talk about them like kids: look, Cecilia's playing with Madison, or whatever."

Wilson said she takes her rat Harriet so much that now, every time her parents call, they ask how Harriet is doing.

In a quiet voice, Wilson admits she sometimes feels sorry for Harriet, who Wilson described as her "little girl."

"I really wish I was doing experiments on her, because it's not always easy to run her through the apparatus," Wilson said.

According to Wilson, it's difficult to separate Harriet the pet from Harriet the lab rat.

"It gets easier with time though," she said. "There's work time with Harriet, then there's play time with Harriet."

MacEwen believes the rats live comfortably in the Chandler labs, which are equipped with special soft lighting and space heaters. Students feed their rats and play with them for half an hour every day. Over the summer and during breaks, MacEwen cares for the rats herself.

The living conditions of the rats cost the psychology department under \$1,000 per year, while an individual rat costs about \$10.

The Chandler labs must follow guidelines set by the American Psychological Association (APA) as to how often the rats are fed, their cages cleaned, and the cleanliness of the lab itself. The APA has made surprise inspections to Chandler in the past.

At least one Chandler rat is more than three years old, according to Wilson.

"Mysterium Humanum" Comes To Campus

By ALYSSA BEST

Staff Writer

"No man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever; all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinion in matters of religion..." wrote Thomas Jefferson in his Bill For Establishing Religious Freedom in 1777.

In connection with the City of Fredericksburg's 225th anniversary celebration of Jefferson's statue for religious freedom, Mary Washington College's Classics, Philosophy and Religion department will present a free, public lecture series and interdisciplinary course called "Mysterium Humanum: Religion and Freedom."

"Religion is an important and central aspect of human existence and of cultures and societies," said Professor of Religion James Goehring, who is teaching this semester's course. "The concept of religious freedom and Jefferson's ideas about it play a very significant role in the founding ideals of this country. A chance to explore that, not only in terms of this country but more broadly in terms of situations around the world, is what this course offers."

The course, which meets twice a week for the public lectures and discussion, is a continuation of the "Mysterium



Professor of Religion James Goehring is teaching a course on religious freedom.

Humanum" lecture series that the department of Classics, Philosophy and Religion started in the 1970s to emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of the department. The series is designed so that guest lecturers and members of the department offer lectures from their different academic fields. Past lecture

Fast Fact:

The profile of the average computer virus writer is age 14-24, talented, bright, and driven by a rebellious, adolescent need to call attention to himself or herself.



David MacEwen holds a rat from the basement of Chandler.

Juliette Gomez/Bullet

"There's this one rat that might have come with the school," Wilson said. "We've named him Gus 'cause that's a perfect old man name. He's been around forever."

Although rats like Gus live long lives, Womack said that those lives are not without misery. "It's debatable whether rats are actually suffering. You can't just say they're not suffering. How can you tell?" she asked.

MacEwen said he does not believe the Chandler rats are suffering. In fact, he believes they're lucky. "After all, they're born in an animal house, in other words, they're born in a big laboratory," MacEwen said. "Their little feet never touch the ground and these animals really could not survive at all in the wild so personally do not feel bad about what we do with the animals."

According to Womack, animal experimentation may cause insensitivity toward life.

There is also little chance the rats could escape from the lab and into other parts of Chandler, according to Wilson.

"I was changing [a rat's] cage once and he got away from me. But it didn't try to run. It just sat there. I think he was just waiting for me to pick him back up," Wilson said. "You know, whenever I got around to it."

According to MacEwen, an actual research facility would not advocate treating lab rats as pets, but MacEwen hopes his students will learn about responsibility as well as psychology. MacEwen says he would be very upset if a student wilfully neglected a rat or allowed it to be seriously injured, though he has not encountered any problems so far.

"Not only do students get a lot out of working with the animals and seeing the principals of psychology applied through a real living organism, but it's good to have the responsibility of taking care of the animal," MacEwen said. "And I tell [my students] that the rats don't take vacations, and on weekends they've got to come in and feed them. It's a living organism and we have to respect that."

Wilson enjoys her job as a lab aide this semester.

"I wish I could teach them to change their own cages," Wilson said. "Other than that, there's nothing I don't like about working with the rats."

series have focused on topics like time, death and dying, sex and sexuality, and slavery.

This semester's lecture series began on Thursday, Jan. 17 in Dodd Auditorium with the keynote speaker Nadine Strossen, who is the president of the American Civil Liberties Union and a professor of Law at New York University Law School. Her lecture is titled, "Why Separation of Government and Religion is Good for both Government and Religion."

The lecture series then moves historically, starting with the Greeks 2,000 years ago and moving to religion in the modern age. Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics, John Mac Isaac, will lecture on "Religious Toleration in the Age of Alexander the Great and the Diocletian," 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 24 in Trinkle 204. Thursdays through Feb. 21 and resume on Tuesdays, from March 12 through April 16. The series will end with Associate Professor of Political Science Curt Ryan's lecture, "Islam, Freedom, and the Question of Democracy in the Modern Middle East."

Mac Isaac, whose lecture focuses on the era of Alexander the Great and his successors, said he is taking a radical approach by stating that the notion of religious toleration is not religious, but philosophical, in origin.

* see FREEDOM, page 6

Professor Publishes Long Poem

By ALYSSA BEST

Staff Writer

In her afternoon session of Creative Writing, Assistant Professor of English Claudia Emerson passed around a publisher's catalogue promoting her new book, "Pinion: An Elegy," which is scheduled to come out in February.

She also told her class that a literary magazine, "The Georgia Review," rejected all of her recent writing submissions.

"I want you to celebrate with me when I succeed but I also want to share my frustrations when I don't succeed," she said to her class, "This is the reality of being a writer."

"Pinion: An Elegy" is Emerson's second book, following the 1997 publication of a collection of poems titled "Pharaoh, Pharaoh." Her new book is a long poem featuring the distinct voices of two family members, Preacher and Sister, who live on a small, southern tobacco farm. Alternating between the two voices, the book is narrated by the younger, surviving sister, Rose, and spans the course of four years.

"The two sections of the book are really different," Emerson said. "Preacher's poems tend to be furious—he's angry, he works outside all the time, he has a brother he hates, and he doesn't like his father. I think I wrote him at a time in my life when things weren't going my way."

"Sister, as a character, was really important for me to write because my poems in 'Pharaoh, Pharaoh' are almost all outside and they deal a lot with the rural landscape," she continued. "Sister is my experience of going inside the house and exploring what I like to call the 'domestic metaphor.'

Sister's greatest release is in Rose getting away [from the house]. She sees that as Rose becoming a bird."

Emerson said that Sister speaks from the 1920s and that her name reflects that she's a character referring to the sister who would never marry as "Sister." Preacher is an older character who speaks on the history of the family from beyond the grave.

Emerson said she titled her book, "Pinion: An Elegy" because the word "pinion" is its own contradiction—it means "wing" but also "to be trapped." The literary term "elegy" is defined as a mournful poem, especially of lament and praise for the dead.

"For me, the book is an elegy for the county where I grew up," she said. "I felt trapped there for many years and getting away really influenced how the book turned out."

Emerson described her hometown of Chatham, Va as rural, depressed, and limited, and said that the landscape has featured in much of her work. She said another influence in her writing of the book were the people from her town.

"I owe my parents a lot for this book because they are the right age to remember what it was like to be Sister in the 1920s and that way of life," she said. "Also, I knew an older man like Preacher and I thought he was fascinating in the strict nature of his life and that he was definitely tied to that place. When Rose, the one who got away, took on a bigger voice and became the narrator, I realized that Rose is me."

Emerson said her literary influences include her mentor, Betty Adcock, southern male writers such as Robert Penn Warren and James Dickey, and Rita Dove's long poem, "Thomas and Beulah".

She said she started work on the Preacher poems around the time her editor accepted her first book and that she was encouraged to continue work on those poems after winning a National Endowment for the Arts award in 1994.

"Right before I came to Mary Washington, I realized that Preacher was not going to be a whole book, that he was too long and narrative," Emerson said. "I didn't quite know what to do with him, but I liked the idea of Sister. She was important to Preacher, so I lifted her out and started writing her in third person."

She said that when the poem turned into a long poem, she changed Sister's voice to first person so that the poem stayed consistent with the first person narration of Preacher.

"I did not intend to write a long poem, but it's fun to have written one and to have Mara Scanlon be the one who is in my office saying, 'That's a long poem,'" Emerson said.

Scanlon, Assistant Professor of English, put "Pinion: An Elegy" on her syllabus for this semester's English seminar course, "Twentieth-Century American Long Poem."

Assistant Professor of English Claudia Emerson's new book will be out in February.

'I did not intend to write a long poem, but it's fun to have written one and to have Mara Scanlon be the one who is in my office saying, That's a long poem.'

Claudia Emerson

Scanlon said she chose to include Emerson's latest work in her course because it represents a type of long poem that she wanted the class to study, it gives her the chance to teach contemporary work, and it enables her to have the author come into the class and talk with students about the creation of her work and her writing process.

"The basic thing is that Claudia is a great writer and the pieces that I read were beautiful and powerful, and I thought it would be a wonderful text for the students to be exposed to," Scanlon said. "Also, Claudia is an amazing resource for this school. To have such an accomplished poet at a smaller school is not really common. And she's a great and dedicated teacher on top of that."

Scanlon also said she wanted to include Emerson's work on the syllabus because it helps her maintain a gender balance within studying the long poem genre, which has only recently become open to women since 1955.

"I think what women are doing with the long poem genre is visionary and exciting and it's a genre that they haven't had access to for the last 50 years," she added.

Emerson said she is flattered and also a little nervous that Scanlon will teach her new book this semester. Associate Professor of English Carmen Gillespie taught Emerson's first book, "Pharaoh, Pharaoh", in one of her English classes the first year Emerson began teaching at Mary Washington College.

Emerson said that she is currently working on a new piece that is divided in two parts: the first part is a series of epistles of a woman speaking to her former husband and the second part is a woman speaking to her husband about his first wife who died. She said the working title of this new piece, which is written in sonnets, is "Late Wife" and that she hopes it will turn into a book.

"I say to my students all the time in Creative Writing: go ahead and write the thing and see what it wants to be," Emerson said. "That sounds a little inexact in the writing process because I do revise incessantly, but sometimes the big picture will make itself clear through the work."

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Recognizing the pertinence of breast cancer to the age group of the Mayqueens, and the reality that several members of the sponsoring organizations have had the disease affect people close to them, Cammaerts and others decided to donate 60 percent of the profits from the dance to breast cancer research, with the other 40 percent of ticket profits going to the French Club.

Cammaerts said that his enthusiasm for this year's revival of the event is due in part to the role of Maycourt at the college during the former half of the twentieth century.

"If you talk to alumni and you ask them about Maycourt, everybody automatically remembers it, and could probably tell you three or four people on the court," Cammaerts said.

Cammaerts hopes that this year's revival of the tradition will garner the interest of the school so that Maycourt can once again become one of the definitive social aspects of Mary Washington College.

Although this year's Maycourt celebration will consist of solely a dance and no other events leading up to it, Cammaerts hopes that in the future "we can phase in more events, but it was just an overwhelming task to bring back [this year] to the scale that it was."

According to senior psychology representative Kevin Kirby, he and other representatives are deciding what to do with the personal poster board dedication to Bill, created in crayon by friends and students.

Additionally, the psychology representatives are collecting stories and remembrances of Bill, which are to be compiled in a book to be displayed in the psychology suite.

"It was apparent what a personable and giving guy he was," Kirby said. "It is incredible what he gave and what put into everything. The loss is clearly felt both this semester and last."

Above the glass Psi Chi display sit many cards in honor of Bill. Phrases like "In Sympathy" and "May memories comfort you" are displayed. Behind them is a huge vase full of artificial flowers. Among all these is a framed quote that Bill used to say:

"The average person (who is not a couch potato) can walk seven miles a day. But don't tell him ahead of time. He'll just say he can't do it. Start walking. You'll get there."

Hampton reflected on the loss to the college community.

"Losing a person that big with such a huge personality really changes the dynamic of the department," Hampton said. "But we just have to go on living day by day. We'll be okay."

Moving On

By ALYSSA BEST

chairperson. "We've lost the centerpiece of the department. We're only just realizing every day, everything that he did here."

Last semester, there was a question within the psychology department of what was to be done with the grades of Bill's nearly 60 students who had yet to take their finals. After much discussion, Hampton led a decision to give students a "to be determined" grade on their report cards.

This semester, with the help of Bill's records, Hampton is looking over the students' grades and discussing the breakdown of them one-by-one.

Additionally, Bill was to teach three classes that included two advanced statistics classes and a Sensation and Perception psychology course.

Advanced Statistics classes are now being taught by Professor John MacKenzie and Associate Professor David Kolar. Sensation and Perception is being taught by Distinguished Professor Roy Smith. Smith dropped a lab in order to pick up the added class.

"We have had to redistribute his classes because there was no time to hire adjuncts," Smith said. "Three of us picked up a class a piece. It's different because it's not a class I normally teach, but hopefully the students are all right with it."

Smith added that in addition to taking over one of Bill's classes and making those changes, he also notices the difference within the office.

"It's just odd not seeing him in here," Smith said. "He's not here to tell you when you're late or to hold court in his office."

Junior Rachelle Chretien was enrolled in Bill's Advanced Statistics class last semester. She was supposed to take the Statistics and Research Methods with him this semester.

"Losing a person that big with such a huge personality really changes the dynamic of the department."

Steve Hampton

It was a w e s o m e . " Chretien said. "I looked forward to class every day with him. He made it fun. He had a way about him that was different from other classes. The new professor is nice, but is definitely different."

Bill was known for getting to know students on a personal level, like asking how their day was or even as far as attending a soccer game.

Chretien and her class gathered in his classroom and exchanged breakfast and personal stories on the Friday after Bill's death, though class was canceled.

In addition to being president-elect of the faculty senate, Bill was also advisor to Mary Washington College's Psi Chi, the honors psychology program. Associate Professors Christine McBride and Miriam Liss have taken over advising duties with Psi Chi.

Bill's four psychology research students were evenly distributed among Hampton, McBride, MacKenzie and Kolar.

"We're just filling in wherever we're needed," Bennett said.

While Mary Washington College administrators and Board of Visitors have established an exemplary faculty member award in Bill's name, the psychology department is looking to create a scholarship for psychology majors in Bill's name as well.

"The scholarship will probably be gifts from former psychology majors from the past 27 years. He would have really appreciated that," according to psychology chairperson Hampton.

The psychology department will soon be looking for a new professor.

"We're going to end up and decide about a full-time tenure track person this spring, hiring next year and beginning in fall 2003," he said. "As for 2002 and 2003, we are working on a one-year replacement. I'm going to be working on that in the next two months."

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Alyssa Best/Bulletin

There She Is: The Mayqueen

By PATRICE RILEY

Staff Writer

For the first time in 34 years, the college will be bringing back one of the most popular and celebrated traditions in its history this spring.

Maycourt, a

semester-long series of

events culminating in a

formal ball right before

graduation, took place

every year from Mary

Washington College's

opening in 1908, to 1968,

when the social and

political pressures of that

era led administrators to

realize that the tradition

was out of line with the

times.

From the annual field

day featuring maypoles,

diadems, trumpeters,

and jazz bands on a field

located where the Monroe

fountain now stands, to the

two days that the administration cancelled classes to

enable the entire student body to braid a chain of daises

that would later decorate the Ballroom for the dance,

Maycourt was widely accepted as the highlight of the

school year.

Each year, a pageant was held in Dodd Auditorium in

George Washington Hall during which four females from each class were chosen as Mayqueens. The queens would

then reign during a dance that was held in George

Washington Hall's Mirrored Ballroom, and later the Lee

Hall Ballroom, and attended by visiting Marines from Quantico, who offset the homogeneity of the then all-female college.

This debutante ball was spearheaded each year by Ms.

Bushnell, the then-dean of the school, who helped to

create a tradition by dictating what dresses the girls could

wear to the dance, and by adorning the ballroom with the

very best china and linens that the college dining services

had to offer.

This year's Maycourt Ball will be sponsored by the

Inter-Club Association, Student Activities, Student

Affairs, the French Club, and the Cycling Club. Inter-

Club Association President Sean Cammaerts and French



photos courtesy of the Bantlefield

Above and Below: Maycourt from past years.



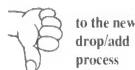
photos courtesy of the Bantlefield

Above and Below: Maycourt from past years.

Features

extras about people and places

thumbs



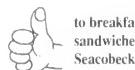
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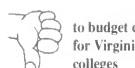
to the snow last weekend



to the bad weather this week



to breakfast sandwiches in Seacobeck on Fridays



to budget cuts for Virginia colleges



to the winter carnival last weekend

in the stars

Aries - A Sagittarian will play an important role in your day. See what's up with him/her. He/she will deliver an important message to you.

Taurus - Never break a promise. People count on you to do what you'll say you'll do. Don't disappoint.

Gemini - Find somewhere to travel to. Take a vacation with someone that you love. Get away from everything.

Cancer - Add some more color to your life. Bright colors will make you feel happier and more energetic.

Leo - Give yourself some added excitement. Allow yourself to breathe the air of freedom. Be a little wild.

Virgo - You deserve the best. If something is not up to your specifications, then search for something that is.

Libra - Smile today. A secret admirer will compliment you on your beautiful smile and appearance.

Scorpio - Don't worry about everyone else's business. Focus on what you need to get done.

Sagittarius - Make sure that you have given yourself enough time to get everything done that you need to get done.

Capricorn - Seek out the company of those who are older than you. You will find them to be very interesting people to converse with.

Aquarius - As an Aquarian you will never show any signs of jealousy.

Pisces - Wear the color of violet today. This is your lucky color.

The Pitter-Patter Of Little Feet

By MELISSA BORGERDING

Staff Writer

Senior Amy Wilson never knew there were rats in the basement of Chandler until she became a psychology department lab aide this semester. Now, Wilson works 10 hours a week watering, feeding and cleaning the cages of 30 to 40 albino lab rats.

"I love working with them," said Wilson, who is eager to talk about the rats. "They're social animals. They like to be held."

Senior Adrienne Hench, also a psychology major, said she enjoys working with the rats.

"I think we really bond with our rats," Hench said.

The rats, kept in a lab in the basement of Chandler, are used for experimentation in upper level psychology classes. While psychology students like Wilson and Hench enjoy working with the rats, not all Mary Washington College students support the psychology department's experiments.

Senior Amy Womack, president of the college's Animal Rights Club, believes there are more sensible alternatives to animal experimentation. According to Womack, the psychology department's experiments are unnecessary.

"These experiments are overdone," Womack said. "It's sort of like reinventing the wheel. These are undergraduate students, so it's not like they're doing anything new. These [experiments] have been done. Students can read about them instead."

Hench disagrees.

"What we're learning from the rats, you can't find in textbooks," she said.

Professor of Psychology David MacEwen teaches Applied Behavioral Analysis, a class in which students work directly with the rats. In his small office in Chandler, every chair and surface covered in stacks of paper, MacEwen talks about the rats as eagerly as his students.

According to MacEwen, each student is assigned a rat and spends the first few weeks of the semester playing with and handling that rat. Students then design experiments for their rats, which may include running their rats through a maze or on a wheel, and sometimes mild shocks. The experiments usually involve memory or learning.

"We do a lot of simple maze experiments, or pressing a lever and getting a little shock or a pellet of food," Hench said.

However, MacEwen said he can understand Womack's point of view.

"I think it's a matter of philosophical difference," MacEwen said. "There are people who just say, well, this should never be done. Well, that's their right to say that, but I don't think they can say we do anything to harm these animals. These rats probably get played with more than most pets."

According to MacEwen, students name their rats and often grow so attached they take their rats home at the end of the semester.

"The rats are like our pets for the semester," said Hench, who named her rat Cecilia. "We play with the rats and let the rats play with each other, and we talk about them like kids look. Cecilia's playing with Madison, or whatever."

Wilson said she thinks about her rat Harriet so much that now, every time her parents call, they ask how Harriet is doing.

In a quiet voice, Wilson admits she sometimes feels sorry for Harriet, who Wilson described as her "little girl."

"I really wish I was doing experiments on her, because it's not always easy to run her through the apparatus," Wilson said.

According to Wilson, it's difficult to separate Harriet the pet from Harriet the lab rat.

"It gets easier with time though," she said. "There's work time with Harriet, then there's play time with Harriet."

MacEwen believes the rats live comfortably in the Chandler labs, which are equipped with special soft lighting and space heaters. Students feed their rats and play with them for half an hour every day. Over the summer and during breaks, MacEwen cares for the rats himself.

The living conditions of the rats cost the psychology department under \$1,000 per year, although individual rat costs about \$10.

The Chandler labs must also meet guidelines set by the American Psychological Association (APA) as to how often the rats are fed, their cages cleaned, and the cleanliness of the lab itself. The APA has made surprise inspections to Chandler in the past.

At least one Chandler rat is more than three years old, according to Wilson.



David MacEwen holds a rat from the basement of Chandler.

Juliene Gomez/Bullet

"There's this one rat that might have come with the school," Wilson said. "We've named him Gus 'cause that's a perfect old man name."

Although rats like Gus live long lives, Womack said that those lives are not without misery.

"It's debatable whether rats are actually suffering. You can't just say they're not suffering. How can you tell?" she asked.

MacEwen said he does not believe the Chandler rats are suffering. In fact, he believes they're lucky.

"After all, they're born in an animal house, in other words, they're born in a big laboratory," MacEwen said. "They're probably never touch the ground and these animals really could not survive at all in the wild so personally do not feel bad about what we do with the animals."

According to Womack, animal experimentation may cause insensitivity toward life.

There is also little chance the rats could escape from the lab and into other parts of Chandler, according to Wilson.

"I was changing a [rat's] cage once and he got away from me. But it didn't try to run. It just sat there. I think he was just waiting for me to pick him back up," Wilson said. "You know, whenever I got around to it."

According to MacEwen, an actual research facility would not advocate treating lab rats as pets, but MacEwen hopes his students will learn about responsibility as well as psychology. MacEwen says he would be very upset if a student willfully neglected a rat or allowed it to be seriously injured, though he has not encountered any problems so far.

"Not only do students get a lot out of working with the animals and seeing the principals of psychology applied through a real living organism, but it's good to have the responsibility of taking care of the animal," MacEwen said. "And I tell my students that the rats don't take vacations, and on weekends they've got to come in and feed them. It's a living organism and we have to respect that."

Wilson enjoys her job as a lab aide this semester.

"I wish I could teach them to change their own [cages]," Wilson said. "Other than that, there's nothing I don't like about working with the rats."

"Mysterium Humanum" Comes To Campus

By ALYSSA BEST

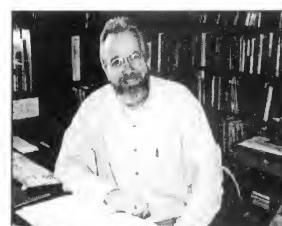
Staff Writer

"No man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever...all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinion in matters of religion," wrote Thomas Jefferson in his Bill For Establishing Religious Freedom in 1777.

In connection with the City of Frederickburg's 225th anniversary celebration of Jefferson's statute for religious freedom, Mary Washington College's Classics, Philosophy and Religion department will present a free, public lecture series and interdisciplinary course called "Mysterium Humanum: Religion and Freedom."

"Religion is an important and central aspect of human existence and of cultures and societies," said Professor of Religion James Goehring, who is teaching this semester's course. "The concept of religious freedom and Jefferson's ideas about it play a very significant role in the founding ideals of this country. A chance to explore that, not only in terms of this country but more broadly in terms of situations around the world, is what this course offers."

The course, which meets twice a week for the public lectures and discussion, is a continuation of the "Mysterium



Professor of Religion James Goehring is teaching a course on religious freedom.

"Humanum" lecture series that the department of Classics, Philosophy and Religion started in the 1970s to emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of the department. The series is designed so that guest lecturers and members of the department offer lectures from their different academic fields. Past lecture

series have focused on topics like time, death and dying, sex and sexuality, and slavery.

This semester's lecture series began on Thursday, Jan. 17 in Dodd Auditorium with the keynote speaker Nadine Strossen, who is the president of the American Civil Liberties Union and a professor of Law at New York University Law School. Her lecture is titled, "Why Separation of Government and Religion is Good for both Government and Religion."

The lecture series then moves historically, starting with the Greeks 2,000 years ago and moving to religion in the modern age. Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics, John Mac Isaac, will lecture on "Religious Toleration in the Age of Alexander the Great and the Diadochi," 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 24 in Trinkle 204. Thursdays through Feb. 21 and resume on Tuesdays, from March 12 through April 16. The series will end with Associate Professor of Political Science, Curt Ryan's lecture, "Islam, Freedom, and the Question of Democracy in the Modern Middle East."

Mac Isaac, whose lecture focuses on the era of Alexander the Great and his successors, said he is taking a radical approach by stating that the notion of religious toleration is not religious, but philosophical, in origin.

* see FREEDOM, page 6

Professor Publishes Long Poem

By ALYSSA BEST

Staff Writer

In her afternoon session of Creative Writing, Assistant Professor of English Claudia Emerson passed around a publisher's catalogue promoting her new book, "Pinion: An Elegy," which is scheduled to come out in February.

She also told her class that a literary magazine, "The Georgia Review," rejected all of her recent writing submissions.

"I want you to celebrate with me when I succeed but I also want to share my frustrations when I don't succeed," she said to her class. "This is the reality of being a writer."

"Pinion: An Elegy" is Emerson's second book, following the 1997 publication of a collection of poems titled "Pharaoh, Pharaoh." Her new book is a long poem featuring the distinct voices of two family members, Preacher and Sister, who live on a small, southern tobacco farm. Alternating between the two voices, the book is narrated by the younger, surviving sister, Rose, and spans the course of four years.

"The two sections of the book are really different," Emerson said. "Preacher's poems tend to be furious - he's angry, he works outside all the time, he has a brother he hates, and he doesn't like his father. I think I wrote him at a time in my life when things weren't going my way."

"Sister, as a character, was really important for me to write because my poems in 'Pharaoh, Pharaoh' are almost all outside and they deal a lot with the rural landscape," she continued. "Sister is my experience of going inside the house and exploring what I like to call the 'domestic metaphor.' Sister's greatest release is in Rose getting away [from the house]. She sees that as Rose becoming a bird."

Emerson said that Sister speaks from the 1920s and that her name reflects that era's convention of referring to the sister who would never marry as "Sister." Preacher is an older character who speaks on the history of the family from beyond the grave.

Emerson said she titled her book "Pinion: An Elegy" because the word "pinion" is its own contradiction - it means "wing" but also "to be trapped." The literary term "elegy" was used as a mournful poem, especially of lament and praise for the dead.

"For me, the book is an elegy for the county where I grew up," she said. "I felt trapped there for many years and getting away really influenced how the book turned out."

Emerson described her hometown of Chatham, Va as rural, depressed, and limited, and said that the landscape has featured in much of her work. She said another influence in her writing of the book were the people from her town.

"I owe my parents a lot for this book because they are the right age to remember what it was like to be in Sister in the 1920s and that way of life," she said. "Also, I knew an older man like Preacher and I thought he was fascinating in the strict nature of his life and that he was definitely tied to that place. When Rose, the one who got away, took on a bigger voice and became the narrator, I realized that Rose is me."

Emerson said her literary influences include her mentor, Betty Adcock, southern male writers such as Robert Penn Warren and James Dickey, and Rita Dove's long poem, "Thomas and Beulah."

She said she started work on the Preacher poems around the time her editor accepted her first book and that she was encouraged to continue work on those poems after winning a National Endowment for the Arts award in 1994.

"A whole book before I came to Mary Washington, I realized that Preacher was not going to be a whole book, that he was too long and narrative," Emerson said. "I didn't quite know what to do with him, but I liked the idea of Sister. She was important to Preacher, so I lifted her out and started writing her in third person."

She said that when the poem turned into a long poem, she changed Sister's voice to first person so that the poem stayed consistent with the first person narration of Preacher.

"I did not intend to write a long poem, but it's fun to have written one and to have Mara Scanlon be the one who is in my office saying, 'That's a long poem,'" Emerson said.

Scanlon, Assistant Professor of English, put "Pinion: An Elegy" on her syllabus for this semester's English seminar course, "Twentieth-Century American Long Poem."



Assistant Professor of English Claudia Emerson's new book will be out in February.

I did not intend to write a long poem, but it's fun to have written one and to have Mara Scanlon be the one who is in my office saying, That's a long poem.

Claudia Emerson

Scanlon said she chose to include Emerson's latest work in her course because it represents a type of long poem that she wanted the class to study; it gives her the chance to teach contemporary work, and it enables her to have the author come into the class and talk with students about the creation of her work and her writing process.

"The basic thing is that Claudia is a great writer and the pieces that I read were beautiful and powerful, and I thought it would be a wonderful text for the students to be exposed to," Scanlon said. "Also, Claudia is an amazing resource for this school. To have such an accomplished poet at a smaller school is not really common. And she's a great and dedicated teacher on top of that."

Scanlon also said she wanted to include Emerson's work on the syllabus because it helps her maintain a gender balance within studying the long poem genre, which has only recently become open to women since 1955.

"I think what women are doing with the long poem genre is visionary and exciting and it's a genre that they haven't had access to for the last 50 years," she added.

Emerson said she is flattered and also a little nervous that Scanlon will teach her new book this semester. Associate Professor of English Carmen Gillespie taught Emerson's first book, "Pharaoh, Pharaoh," in one of her English classes the first year Emerson began teaching at Mary Washington College.

Emerson said that she is currently working on a new piece that is divided in two parts: the first part is a series of episodes of a woman speaking to her former husband and the second part is a woman speaking to her husband about his first wife who died. She said the working title of this new piece, which is written in sonnets, is "Late Wife" and that she hopes it will turn into a book.

"I say to my students all the time in Creative Writing, go ahead and write the thing and see what it wants to be," Emerson said. "That sounds a little macabre in the writing process because I do revise incessantly, but sometimes the big picture will make itself clear through the work."

Club President Chehab, the main coordinators of the ball, said that this year's Maycourt will feature the dance on its original scale with several changes to accommodate the times.

In contrast to the past Maycourt dances, this year's will not include any sort of pageant. A group of five faculty and staff members will choose a king and queen from each class based on a contest consisting of a 1,000-word essay on school spirit. Court attendants to the couples will also be chosen and contestants will be able to advertise their achievements and leadership skills on a half-page 8-by-11 sheet in the Eagles' Nest where a popular vote will determine the winners in an election to be held Friday, Feb. 1.

Cammaerts stressed that Maycourt is not a beauty contest but instead a celebration of school spirit and solidarity.

"We want to have people who represent the best of Mary Washington," he said.



photos courtesy of the Battlefield

Above and Below: Maycourt from past years.

This year the Maycourt Ball will be held on Feb. 8, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Great Hall. Tickets will be on sale for \$12 for couples and \$8 for singles, with ICA club members receiving 25 percent off of those prices. Cammaerts explained that event organizers decided that a substantial share of the profits should be given to an outside cause.

Recognizing the pertinence of breast cancer to the age group of the Mayqueens, and the reality that several members of the sponsoring organizations have had the disease affect people close to them, Cammaerts and others decided to donate 60 percent of the profits from the dance to breast cancer research, with the other 40 percent of ticket profits going to the French Club.

Cammaerts said that his enthusiasm for this year's revival of the event is due in part to the part of the role of Maycourt at the college during the former half of the twentieth century.

"If you talk to alumnae and you ask them about Maycourt, everybody automatically remembers it, and could probably tell you three or four people on the court," Cammaerts said.

Cammaerts hopes that this year's revival of the tradition will garner the interest of the school so that Maycourt can once again become one of the definitive social aspects of Mary Washington College.

Although this year's Maycourt celebration will consist of solely a dance and no other events leading up to it, Cammaerts hopes that in the future "we can phase in more events, but it was just an overwhelming task to bring it back [this year] to the scale that it was."



Moving On

▲ LOSS, page 1

chairperson. "We've lost the centerpiece of the department. We're only just realizing every day, everything that we did here."

Last semester, there was a question within the psychology department of what was to be done with the grades of Bill's nearly 60 students who had yet to take their finals. After much discussion, Hampton led a decision to give students a "to be determined" grade on their report cards.

This semester, with the help of Bill's records, Hampton is looking over the students' grades and discussing the breakdown of them one-by-one.

Additionally, Bill was to teach three classes that included two advanced statistics classes and a Sensation and Perception psychology course. Advanced Statistics classes are now being taught by Professor John MacLean and Associate Professor David Kolar. Sensation and Perception is being taught by Distinguished Professor Roy Smith. Smith dropped a lab in order to pick up the added class.

"We have had to redistribute his classes because there was no time to hire adjuncts," Smith said. "Three of us picked up a class a piece. It's different because it's not a class I normally teach, but hopefully the students are all right with it."

Smith added that in addition to taking over one of Bill's classes and making those changes, he also notices the difference within the office.

"It's just odd seeing him in here," Smith said. "He's not here to tell you when you're late or to hold court in his office."

Junior Rachelle Chretien was enrolled in Bill's Advanced Statistics class last semester. She was supposed to take the Statistics and Research Methods with him this semester.

"Losing a person that big with such a huge personality really changes the dynamic of the department."

Steve Hampton

"It was a w e s o m e . " Chretien said. "I looked forward to class every day with him. He made it fun. He had a way about him that was different from other classes. The new professor is nice, but is definitely different."

Bill was known for getting to know students on a personal level, like asking how their day was or even as far as attending a soccer game.

Chretien and her class gathered in their classroom and exchanged breakfast and personal stories on the Friday after Bill's death, though class was cancelled.

In addition to being president-elect of the faculty senate, Bill was also advisor to Mary Washington College's Psi Chi, the honors psychology program. Associate Professors Christine McBride and Miriam Liss have taken over advising duties with Psi Chi.

Bill's four psychology research students were evenly distributed among Hampton, McBride, MacLean and Kolar.

"We're just filling in wherever we're needed," Bennett said.

While Mary Washington College administrators and Board of Visitors have established an exemplary faculty member award in Bill's name, the psychology department is looking to create a scholarship for psychology majors in Bill's name as well.

"[The scholarship] will probably be gifts from former psychology majors from the past 27 years. He would have really appreciated that," according to psychology chairperson Hampton.

The psychology department will soon be looking for a new professor.

"We're going to work on and decide about a full-time tenure track person this spring, hiring next year and beginning fall 2003," he said. "As for 2002 and 2003, we are working on a one-year replacement. I'm going to be working on that in the next two months."

According to senior psychology representative Kevin Libby, he and other representatives are deciding what to do with the personal poster board dedication to Bill, created in crayon by friends and students.

Additionally, the psychology representatives are collecting stories and remembrances of Bill, which are to be compiled in a book to be displayed in the psychology suite.

"It was apparent what a personable and giving guy he was," Libby said. "It is incredible what he gave and what he put into everything. The loss is clearly felt both this semester and last."

Above the glass Psi Chi display sit many cards in honor of Bill. Phrases like "In Sympathy" and "May memories comfort you" are displayed. Behind them is a huge vase full of artificial flowers. Among all these is a framed quote that Bill used to say:

"The average person (who is not a couch potato) can walk seven miles a day. But don't tell him about it. He'll just say he can't do it. Start walking. You'll get there."

Hampton reflected on the loss to the college community.

"Losing a person that big with such a huge personality really changes the dynamic of the department," Hampton said. "But we just have to go on living day by day. We'll be okay."



**Grad Admissions &
Strategy Seminar**

*Get Admissions advice
from the experts.*

Mary Washington College
Campus Center, Red Room

*Learn about the application process
and admissions tests for Law,
Graduate, and Medical School.*

Tuesday, February 5 • 4pm

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expert teachers
superior materials
smart technology
proven results

BIRTH CONTROL CLINIC

The MWC Heath Center's Birth Control Clinic has begun for the 2001-2002 school year. The clinic is available for women who wish to start a prescription method of birth control or who have been patients of the clinic in the past. The clinic is open to women who are residential students or who are full time commuting students.

All first time participants must attend one of the birth control education classes presented by the Human Sexuality Peer Health Educators before making an appointment with the Heath Center. These classes are held on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. For more information about these classes, please contact Elizabeth x3022.

The Birth Control Clinic is held each Tuesday morning from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Students are seen by appointment only. A non-refundable fee of \$45, which covers the exam and three months of oral contraceptives, must be paid when the appointment is made. Call the Health Center at x1040 to make an appointment.



LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION



CHEF'S FARE TONIGHT

4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

STARRING
THE FINEST CHEFS
FROM THE WOOD DINING SERVICES
GREAT FOOD FROM
YOUR FAVORITE MOVIES



SEACOBECK HALL

Survey Says...



**Most MWC male students (76%) think
that a woman means NO when she says
NO to sex.**

**But, most (73%) believe that OTHER
MWC males think she means "maybe."**

***Don't be afraid to challenge
sexist attitudes – they make most
other guys as uncomfortable as
you.***

Based on a survey of Dr. Kilmartin and his research team (Fall 2001) from a sample of male MWC students.

Scene

your guide to entertainment

coming attractions

▼ Friday, Jan. 25:

Magic Show, Studio 115, duPont Hall, 8:30 p.m. Also Saturday Jan. 26 at 8:30 p.m. \$5.

▼ Friday, Jan. 25:

Movie, "The Others," 7 p.m. Also Saturday, Jan. 26 at 10 p.m. and Sunday Jan. 27 at 2 p.m. "Ghost World," 10 p.m. Also Saturday 7 p.m. Dodd Auditorium, G.W. Hall, \$1

▼ Friday, Jan. 25:

Showtime at MWC, 9 p.m. Underground. To perform, sign up in the Campus Center. Free.

top ten movies

1. Black Hawk Down
2. Snow Dogs
3. Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
4. A Beautiful Mind
5. Orange County
6. Oceans 11
7. The Royal Tenenbaums
8. Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius
9. Gosford Park
10. Kate and Leopold

Opening this weekend: "I Am Sam," featuring Sean Penn and Michelle Pfeiffer. Opens January 25th.

source: www.imdb.com

Quote of the Week

"You want to vex my sister!"

-Charlie,
"Kate and Leopold"

Better Than RuPaul

Second Annual Drag Show Shakes The College

By TREY CROMWELL and
DEVIN WAIS
Staff Writers

Amid a vast audience of Mary Washington College students, professors and guests, Pride Reflecting Individuals of Sexual Minorities (PRISM)'s second annual drag show rocked the campus January 16.

Featuring a professional cast of performers from Richmond, as well as students from Mary Washington College, the show was, beginning to end, a success. Even the line for the metal detector at the front door and the locked doors preventing anyone from going into the Eagle's Nest without permission couldn't dampen the spirits of the audience.

Enthusiastically hosted by Cucumber Dip and Xavier Moresox, the show took its audience through a rousing series of performance pieces, ranging from Janet Jackson to Madonna.

"This show promises to be bigger and better, glamorous and fabulous," Jess Brady, "Xavier Moresox," said.

Last year's event sold all of the 170 available tickets and people were even turned away at the door. PRISM raised \$400 of profit, after working with the school to pay the fees for the lighting and sound crew, decorations, food, and the professional performers.

PRISM built some of the cost of the show into their budget for the year and are using their speaker funds for the drag show. While the exact cost of the entire show is not known, PRISM's co-chair Erin Murphy

knows it is not a cheap endeavor.

The mood of the show can only be described as energetic. From the beginning, the audience showed its appreciation. This year's show was bigger, bolder and more daring. From the costumes to the lights to the pulsing music, no detail was overlooked, and the audience knew it.

The show began on a great note as Star and then Desire took the stage, kicking off the experience. Full of high energy music, their sets were only the beginning. Chants, looks of awe and dollar bills flew as each performer danced her way across the stage.

Cheers resounded as MWC's own Juniper finished her set, imploring the audience to "Bring On The Men", complete with chair dance. Undoubtedly one of the best performers, Juniper shook her stuff with flair, whipping the crowd into a frenzy.

Not to be forgotten was Out Of Sync, performing twice during the evening. Tight choreography, as well as the costumes, made the act a favorite.

"I thought it was interesting," student Alex Gomez said.

The highlight of the evening was a returning favorite, the ever popular Barbie Q. Her first set was Madonna, complete with cowboy hat. The audience was treated to a live performance of the pop star's work, Barbie inviting everyone to sing along.

Returning in the second half, Barbie Q did several numbers, including her trademark song, *Aqua's "Barbie Girl"*. The whole audience was with her as she told the audience that she was, without doubt, "a Barbie Girl, in a Barbie world."

According to Murphy, part of the

proceeds for the drag show will go toward the Washington DC chapter of the NAMES Project Foundation, an organization that manages a collection of cloth panels designed as memorials to those who have died of AIDS.

The show was a great success.

The audience was entertained and

the performers were happy.

PRISM's second annual drag show was a success.

By TREY CROMWELL and

DEVIN WAIS
Staff Writers

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Staff Writers

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The connections between Leopold and 1876, (the year he "fell out of"), provided nice details to think about while watching the plot develop. The costumes and sets made the movie very visually pleasing, just as the soundtrack added a lot to it.

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Left to Right: Clooney and Company in "Oceans 11," Ryan and Jackman in "Kate and Leopold," and Astin and Wood in "Lord of the Rings."

Photos Courtesy of Yahoo

Scene

your guide to entertainment

coming attractions

▼ Friday, Jan. 25:

Magic Show. Studio 115, duPont Hall. 8:30 p.m. Also Saturday Jan. 26 at 8:30 p.m. \$5.

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Movie, "The Others," 7 p.m. Also Saturday, Jan. 26 at 10 p.m. and Sunday Jan. 27 at 2 p.m. "Ghost World," 10 p.m. Also Saturday 7 p.m. Dodd Auditorium, G.W. Hall, \$1

▼ Friday, Jan. 25:

Showtime at MWC. 9 p.m. Underground. To perform, sign up in the Campus Center. Free.

top ten movies

1. Black Hawk Down
2. Snow Dogs
3. Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
4. A Beautiful Mind
5. Orange County
6. Oceans 11
7. The Royal Tenenbaums
8. Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius
9. Gosford Park
10. Kate and Leopold

Opening this weekend: "I Am Sam," featuring Sean Penn and Michelle Pfeiffer. Opens January 25th.

Source: www.imdb.com

Quote of the Week

"You want to vex my sister!"

-Charlie,
Kate and Leopold"

Better Than RuPaul

Second Annual Drag Show Shakes The College

By TREY CROMWELL and DEWIN WAIS
Staff Writers

Amid a vast audience of Mary Washington College students, professors and guests, *Pride Reflecting Individuals of Sexual Minorities (PRISM)*'s second annual drag show rocked the campus January 16.

Featuring a professional cast of performers from Richmond, as well as students from Mary Washington College, the show was beginning to end, a success. Even the line for the metal detector at the front door and the locked doors preventing anyone from going into the Eagle's Nest without permission couldn't dampen the spirits of the audience.

Enthusiastically hosted by Cucumber Dip and Xavier Morecox, the show took its audience through a rousing series of performance pieces, ranging from Janet Jackson to Madonna.

"This show promises to be bigger and better, glamorous and fabulous," Jess Brady, "Xavier Morecox," said.

Last year's event sold all of the 170 available tickets and people were even turned away at the door. PRISM raised \$400 of profit, after working with the school to pay the fees for the lighting and sound crew, decorations, food, and the professional performers.

PRISM built some of the cost of the show into their budget for the year and are using their speaker funds for the drag show. While the exact cost of the entire show is not known, PRISM's co-chair Erin Murphy

knows it is not a cheap endeavor.

The mood of the show can only be described as energetic. From the beginning, the audience showed its appreciation. This year's show was bigger, bolder and more daring. From the costumes to the lights to the pulsing pounding music, no detail was overlooked, and the audience knew it.

The show began on a great note as Star and then Desire took the stage, kicking off the experience. Full of high energy music, their sets were only at the beginning. Chants, looks of awe and dollar bills flew as each performer danced her way across the stage.

Cheers resounded as MWC's own Juniper finished her set, imploring the audience to "Bring On The Men," complete with chair dance. Undoubtedly one of the best performers, Juniper shook her stuff with flair, whipping the crowd into a frenzy.

Not to be forgotten was Out Of Sync, performing twice during the evening. Tight choreography, as well as the costumes, made the act a favorite.

"I thought it was interesting," student Alex Gomez said.

The highlight of the evening was a returning favorite, the ever popular Barbie-Q. Her first set was Madonna, complete with cowboy hat. The audience was treated to a live performance of the pop star's work, Barbie inviting everyone to sing along.

Returning in the second half, Barbie-Q did several numbers, including her trademark song, *Aqua's "Barbie Girl"*. The whole audience was with her as she told the audience that she was, without doubt, "a Barbie Girl, in a Barbie world."

According to Murphy, part of the

proceeds for the drag show will go toward the Washington DC chapter of the NAMES Project Foundation, an organization that manages a collection of cloth panels designed as memorials to those who have died of AIDS.



Professional drag queens from Richmond seduce the audience.

Alyssa Best/Bullet

Alakazam

Magic Show This Weekend

By PORTIA SMITH
Staff Writer

Senior Trey Cromwell and two other magicians will host a night of magic this weekend at Mary Washington College to raise money to reopen the Virginia Renaissance Faire in King George County.

Cromwell and professional magician Michael Taggart and Mike Palino will put on an hour and a half show in duPont on Friday and Saturday night, Jan. 25 and 26.

Not much about their acts could be revealed but the audience should expect to see various magical tricks including close-up magic, mind reading, stage illusions and plenty of audience participation.

"A magician never gives away the entire show beforehand," Cromwell said. "But do expect to have a good time."

Cromwell has performed in three talent shows at Mary Washington College.

Senior Holly Petty said that his act is always entertaining.

"The show is fun whether you are four-years-old or 40," Petty said. "You can bring a kid or your grandmother and still have a good time."

Senior Tiffany Curry said the best part of the show is how it includes the crowd.

"He gets the audience involved in every aspect and you actually feel like you are a part of the show," he said.

Cromwell said that his goal is for the audience to leave understanding the message of the show, which is that anything is possible.

All proceeds from the magic show will be donated to a group of actors and vendors who are trying to purchase land to reopen the Virginia Renaissance Faire in King George County that was closed in 1999. The Renaissance Faire is a group of actors, magicians, jugglers, and storytellers who recreate the time period during the reign of Queen Elizabeth in the late 16th century.

"Rebuilding this faire is a dream for all of us because it was a home for all of us," Cromwell said. "It was the core of our kinship."

According to Taggart, the Renaissance Entertainment Company, owners of the Virginia Renaissance Faire, owned five other fairs and sold the

Bunnies Energize The Great Hall

2 Skinnie J's Performance Includes The Political and The Weird

By ANGELA HAUGHEY
Staff Writer

A man dressed in a gold lame beret, aviator sunglasses, and a large gold medallion took off his black jacket. He put down his Aquafina water bottle. When the cheesy house music began to play, he made his stage. His body started moving to the throbbing pulsing in an erotic sort of dance.

Soon, he was thrusting all over the stage. He finished this exhibition with the spanking of himself as well as two men dressed as bunnies.

No, this was not the latest bestiality-flick, but rather, it was Sunday night's 2 Skinnie J's concert.

The thrusting man was their manager, A.J.

"Stumpy" Johnson, who stood at the back of the stage sipping his water, impervious to everything going on around him, with the exception of that brief, but entertaining display of rhythm.

This, however, was just one of the memorable events of the evening. With their creative rhymes, thumping beats, and collection of turntables, 2 Skinnie J's rocked Great Hall with a show to remember on Sunday, Jan. 20.

The lead singer of 2 Skinnie J's sings to the crowd in the Great Hall Sunday night.

their performance.

Giant Productions co-chair, Robert Brown, was impressed with the band.

"I thought the show was really good, but I was disappointed at the turn out," he said.

The independent band Infectious Organisms opened for 2 Skinnie J's with an energized performance. Their smooth rhymes and pulsing bass were reminiscent of The Roots. At one point during the show, one of the lead vocalists jumped into the crowd during one of their songs.

The real excitement, however, was yet to come. Dressed in white cut-off shirts and a rainbow assortment of ties, six members of 2 Skinny J's stepped on stage. With them joined their manager Johnson, and two other members dressed as white rabbits. It was truly a spectacle.

The lights grew dim and immediately started the performance. Special J and J Guevara, the two lead vocalists, bantered back and forth while The Spice played his strap-on keyboard. Soon, they were all jumping up and down on the drum beats, all while still singing and playing their instruments. They encouraged the crowd to jump up with them. Shortly after, all of Great Hall was bouncing in unison.

Ironically, the two men dressed as bunnies were not hopping around with the rest of the band. Instead, they stood off in the back corners of the stage. Unlike their fellow band members, these bunnies were not energized.

The band continued with their non-stop, high-energy performance with crowd favorites

▼ see SKINNIE, page 10



Juliette Gomez/Bullet

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Photos Courtesy of Yahoo

Two Legends Rock The MCI Center

By DEWIN WAIS

Staff Writer

A British and American flag waved side by side on the monitors. Spotlights illuminated two pianos on stage. Two men walked out on stage - both in suits, one in classic black, the other in bright pink. The crowd went wild.

On Sunday, Jan. 20, Billy Joel and Sir Elton John completed their 3-show stop at Washington, D.C.'s MCI Center for yet another sold out crowd.

The duo started off the concert with an incredible performance of John's "Your Song," followed by Joel's "Just The Way You Are." John's band then joined them for John's "Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me." As the song drew to an end, John and Joel met one another in the middle of the stage, gave each other a high-five, bowed to the crowd, and then the lights went out.

When the stage lights came back on a minute later, Joel's piano was gone and John was left on stage with his band. His solo set drew from 30 years of music, from "Levon" off of 1971's "Madman Across The Water" to his new single, "This Train Don't Stop There Anymore" off of 2001's "Songs From The West Coast". His energy was contagious during the songs "Rockin' Man," "I Guess That's Why They Call It The Blues," and "I'm Still Standing." After every song, John rose from his black and white checkered piano bench and bowed to the screaming crowd. During his final number, "Crocodile Rock," John allowed the crowd to take over the vocals. His set ended with a standing ovation from the crowd while he stood on his piano bench as the lights again went out.



Photos Courtesy of Yahoo

At his own piano a minute later, Joel and his band began his set with a powerful performance of the 1977 classic, "Scenes From An Italian Restaurant." Joel involved himself with the crowd, chatting and telling jokes between songs. He played an excerpt from his new classical album, "Fantasies & Delusions," and then shifted to songs from his last vocal album, 1993's "River of Dreams."

Under a single spotlight and with the aid of just his piano, Joel played the beautiful "Lullabye" and was then rejoined by his band for "River of Dreams." He thanked D.C. for its support during the past few months as an introduction to "New York State Of Mind;" a few lighters spotted the darkness around the arena. Joel then lifted up the mood with intense "I Go To Extremes," kicking his stool away and banging on the piano with his behind. He then played guitar during "We Didn't Start The Fire," and ended his solo set with a rousing performance of "Only The Good Die Young."

In a new black suit decorated with rhinestones, John rejoined Joel onstage for Joel's "My Life." With the crowd on their feet they led a tribute to George Harrison, urging everyone to sing along to "Here Comes The Sun." John made yet another costume change, this time into plaid golf pants and a wool sweater, for an amusing rendition of John's "The Bitch Is Back," while Joel danced on top of his piano. Keeping the animated atmosphere, they performed Joel's "You May Be Right" and then played dueling pianos with "Great Balls of Fire." As they brought the show to an end, the lights dimmed, the crowd sat, and sang along to John's "Candle In The Wind."

The evening was summed up during their final song, Joel's "Piano Man," in four simple lyrics that they allowed the crowd to sing for them: "Sing us a song, you're the piano man/Sing us a song tonight/Well, we're all in the mood for a melody/And you've got us feelin' alright."

2 Skinnee J's Keep Going And Going...

▲ SKINNEE, page 8

such as, "Riot Nirv" and "The Good, the Bad, & the Skinnee."

"If our school had half as much energy as [2 Skinnee J's] did, it would be a lot more fun," said junior Mary Snedeker.

Although the crowd and the venue were small, 2 Skinnee J's did not seem to notice; they still put all of their effort into pleasing the crowd.

"I thought they did an excellent job considering the size of Great Hall and the crowd. They made it feel like they were performing in front of thousands of people in a stadium," said junior Tim Shea.

Halfway through the 2 Skinnee J's performance, the two lead vocalists from Infected Organisms were invited to come up on stage for an impressive freestyle.

Next, the band decided to play Pluto in dedication to the Enron Corp. disaster. They proceeded to mention this collapse three more times during the show.

The evening took a more somber turn when the band took a moment to remember civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Tim Shea appreciated it when, "they

stopped everything and had us think about [Dr. King]...they really emphasized the importance of standing up for what we believe in."

But soon after they jumped right back into the swing of things with another crowd favorite, (718), from the album "Super Mercado."

Blending a mixture of bands, rock, and funk, 2 Skinnee J's is often compared to bands such as Rage Against the Machine, 311, and Cypress Hill. Clearly, after listening to a few tracks, you can hear the different elements of all these bands.

Around 1990, this Brooklyn-based band first set up its roots. Not until 1996, however, did 2 Skinnee J's have its final lineup: vocalists Special J, J Guevara, Ultra Mega Mel, and Bobby Oakes, guitarist A. Mays, bassist Eddie Eyeball, drummer Andy Action, and keyboardist the Spice. Their new album is expected to be released this March.

From men dressed as bunnies to Enron, Martin Luther King Jr. to thrashing managers, 2 Skinnee J's has proven that they can please all types of people.

Magicians Band Together To Save Ren Faire

▲ MAGIC, page 8

property of the Virginia Faire because it was costing a lot of upfront capital. There is conflict because a manufacturing company wants to build on the same land that was the site for the fair. Taggart said that if they can't purchase that site then they will purchase land somewhere else in the Virginia region.

Cromwell started performing magic nine years ago after he joined the magic club in the eighth grade. He began to watch magic shows and became inspired by David Copperfield. It was a revelation for him. He loved performing because each show was never the same twice. Since the whole dynamic of each audience was different something new happened every time.

"Trey is absolutely phenomenal. He is very talented and just getting better," said Curry.

Taggart has been a professional magician for thirty years. He started it as a hobby and perfected the art. He has worked for the Riverside Dinner theater and has performed magic in England, Germany, France, Norway, and the 48 contiguous states. He is considered one of the top magicians in Virginia and is well-known in the Fredericksburg area.

Taggart gave a sneak peek of his 25 minute act. He said he will make a one dollar bill vanish and then reappear inside of a real lemon.

Paldino has been practicing magic since the age of seven. He has won awards from the Society of American Magicians. He is known for his one-man performance and his Night of Deception act done with a deck of cards.

A Night of Magic will be this Friday and Saturday night in duPont Studio 115 from 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person and it is open to the public.

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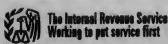
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Eagles Run Down Mustangs, 69-30

By LIZ KELLER
Assistant Sports Editor



Caitlin Wilkinson looks for an open teammate.

Amanda Tilmann/Bullet

The Mary Washington College women's basketball team won their second straight game by defeating Villa Julie College 69-30 on Monday night. The win marked the team's third victory of the season and their highest scoring total of the year. Mary Washington's record improved to 3-2 overall, while Villa Julie dropped to 2-13 on the season.

The Eagles dominated offensively throughout the game and allowed the Mustangs just 17 points in the first half. Senior Louise Winstead led the Eagles in scoring with 14 points and forward Caitlin Wilkinson added 11 points and 10 boards.

Head coach Becky Timmins felt that her team played on Monday with a higher confidence level than in other games this season, which helped in the win.

"We played as a team, challenged ourselves as a team and individually to get the fundamentals on both offense and defense," Timmins said.

The Eagles held Villa Julie to just 27 percent shooting from the field for the game while out-rebounding the Mustangs 51-26.

Wilkinson thought that the team worked hard on defense to limit Villa Julie's shooting, which helped the team on offense.

"We took the time to run through our offensive plays, which enabled us to get some good looks at the basket. We also were patient and made smart passes and played with a lot of heart," Wilkinson said.

Katie Anderson, a sophomore guard, had eight points and five rebounds in Monday night's game.

"I thought we pushed the ball up the court and were more aggressive on offense, which allowed us to convert more baskets on offense," Anderson said.

Freshman Kristin Sorrell, who came off the bench and scored seven points and grabbed seven rebounds in 15 minutes, said that the team came together and played well and was an important factor in the win.

"We communicated and played well together as a team and we were able to get the ball to the basket and score," Sorrell said.

While Winstead and Wilkinson were the only MWC players to score in double digits, sophomores Adrienne Barnes and Kelly Kinahan each added seven points for the Eagles.

The Eagles play at Salisbury University on Saturday Jan. 26

Hairston Hopes To Lead Eagles To CAC Tournament

HAIRSTON, page 12

23 points. Hairston is still leading as the top scorer with a season total of 210 points and an average of 15 points per game.

"I would trade any amount of stats for more wins," Hairston said. "People say winning is not a lot but winning is why we all play."

Hairston said that at the beginning of the season, he thought that the Eagles would be on top of the conference and that he expected that the team's record would be a lot better than it is at the moment.

"We've actually changed in the last two weeks and we've been working a lot harder in practice," Hairston said. "Right now, I have to continue to finish and try to put together two good halves instead one half here and there. My expectations from here on out are to finish top four in the conference, get a home game for our conference tournament and then on out we just have to win two more games. Anything is possible."

According to his teammates Hairston is a motivated and intense player.

"He does a lot of things on the court that a lot of the other players can't do," said junior forward Dan Dupras. "He's a fun guy, on and off the court."

Sophomore guard Erik Rodriguez said Hairston is a great player and has a laid back attitude.

"Carefree is the perfect word for him," Rodriguez said.

Hairston is one of the few players on the team who has enough ups to dunk. He said a mixture of his love of the game, practice and his pre-game rituals fuels his intensity on the court and his motivation to win.

"I make sure that I wear the same socks for every game, I wear the same shorts underneath for every game and I always say a personal prayer before the game," Hairston said.

He also said he dedicates each game to his grandmother and grandfather who never got to see him play in college.

Field Hockey Star Nationally Recognized

MORRIS, page 12

in MWC field hockey history to be named to All-America teams, the last player being Erin Broome in 1998.

"After playing together for four years, Jess and I know each other's potential and we wouldn't hesitate to tell each other to pick it up in a game," Ballance said.

Now with her senior season complete, and with 53 career goals, Morris is thankful for the team that has been an integral part of her college years.

"I couldn't have scored if no one gave me the ball, and I wouldn't have near the success I have had if I hadn't been on this team," she said. "It's not just scoring that motivates me, it's just as rewarding to give a pass and see it end up in the goal."

Off the field, Morris is an active member of her hometown church, going on two missionary trips to Cuba over the past two summers. According to Coach Hall, Morris's strong values make her a well-rounded individual on and off the field.

Hairston attended Vassett High School in Southern VA, where he played for the basketball team, which was composed, predominantly of black players.

"Last year I was the only minority on the team and this year I am one of three," Hairston said. "I look at [all my teammates] as a family because I've been around them so long. They've never treated me any differently. Race hasn't come up."

As a senior, Hairston says that he likes the game strategies of Coach Rod Wood.

"Our system is definitely different," Hairston said. "We run a lot of set plays, there is a lot to remember and coach demands a lot. It has to be just like second nature to you. I think [Wood] is a great coach. He knows his Xs and Os. He knows his ins and outs of basketball. He uses very inventive ways to motivate us. Personally I don't have a problem with any of the things he does or says. I take it as him trying to motivate me."

When he's not playing basketball, Hairston likes to write poetry and short stories. He also enjoys reading the work of Langston Hughes, his favorite writer.

"The stuff that [Hughes] writes is really inspiring," Hairston said. "I can relate to a lot of the things that he says. [In one poem] he talks about the way he grew up, from what he was to where he is now. I can see that a lot in me because I grew up kind of poor and I'm just grateful from where I came to where I am now. A lot of his stuff describes me."

With the Eagles at a record of 6-9, Hairston said he sometimes gets frustrated with his performance.

"At times every player wants the ball more because he or she feels that they are capable of taking the game over and sometimes I feel that way, but I think I get the ball enough."

After college, Hairston, an English major, plans to go into Sports Broadcasting and writing.



Hairston struggles for possession.

Amanda Tilmann/Bullet



Nancy Freeman/Bullet
Sophomore Priscilla Tomescu practices the breast stroke.

Unanticipated Loss Ends Eagles Winning Streak

BY PAM KRAMER

Staff Writer

The Mary Washington College swim team had a bittersweet two weeks. Coming off a big win last week versus Capital Athletic Conference rival, Marymount, MWC men fell to Gettysburg College 104-45 and the women lost to Gettysburg 122-83.

Although this was a tough loss, there were a few highlights in the meet for MWC. Sophomore Justin Snyder came in first in the 200 butterfly, a race he holds the 5th fastest time at MWC with a time of 1:59.27. The women swept the 200-butterfly race as well.

Last week however, was a different story. Both the men and women's swim teams dominated against Marymount University as the men improved their record to 7-1, 6-0 in the CAC and the women improved to 7-2 by defeating Marymount 105-45 and 93-71 respectively.

The men's team earned several first place finishes. Both relays placed first, as well as sophomore Brent Kintzel in the 50 freestyle, sophomore Scott Baker in the 500 freestyle, junior Steve Coughlin in the 200 backstroke and freshman Ryan McGonigal in the 200 butterfly. "This is the best the team has been," assistant coach Mike Salpeter said.

This certainly is the case for both the men and the women of MWC swimming. The women placed first in both relay events, as well. Others who placed first included junior Karen Riesenfeld in the 200 breaststroke, senior Jen Wilson in the 50 freestyle, sophomore Beth Wagner in the 500 freestyle and freshman Lauren Schmidt in the 200 butterfly.

These first place winners were backed by their teammates strong performances as well. "Every individual is swimming way beyond their potential," Salpeter said. "Both teams are set up well for conferences and for nationals."

The women's team is the reigning CAC champions since 1991 and hope to continue that tradition. With only one loss in the season thus far, it looks good for the remaining meet, versus Johns Hopkins and Washington and Lee University on January 25 and 26.

The men's team also looks to repeat as the CAC champions with a 7-1 record and 6-0 record in the conference, they are in a position to do so.

The Eagles continue to dominate not only in the CAC, but also in the nation. Riesenfeld and Schmidt have already qualified for nationals. Riesenfeld qualified in the 200-breast stroke and Schmidt in the 200 butterfly. Many swimmers on the MWC squad hope to follow in the ranks of the many teammates who qualified last year for nationals.

The Eagles' next meet is on Friday at 6 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m. in Goolrick Gym.

Want To Write For The Sports Section??

Contact The Bullet at x1133 or email us at bullet@mwc.edu

"She is a leader that leads in a quiet manner, that earns respect from her teammates as well as opponents. Her competitive drive is evident in all walks of her life, whether it is achieving a strong performance on the field or in the computer lab," Hall said.

As for her face in Sports Illustrated, Morris has already received a response.

"I got a note from someone in North Carolina asking for an autograph. I don't know what to make of that."

According to Coach Hall, one thing to be made of Morris's success is a name for herself in MWC athletics.

"Jess Morris has rewritten the record books here at MWC," Hall said.

The MWC library staff was excited to provide an ad about MWC Libraries in the November 29th issue of The Bullet. We will continue to run a series of ads to better acquaint you with library services and resources. We focus on the MWC Library Home Page in this issue.



Hours Catalog Site Guide MWC Home JMC Library

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Next month we will explore Government Documents / IRS Publications, etc. so be on the lookout!!!

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Crossword 101

Capitol Mixture

Across

1 Rental car

5 Cow catcher

10 Old times

14 Type of vaccine

15 Computer code

16 Story start off

17 Philadelphia, e.g.

18 LETS ANCHOR

20 Fast

21 Miller, e.g.

22 Three-piece suit needs

23 Necessities

25 Precedes fly or mouse

27 22 Across material

29 Dispatch

33 Scout group

34 Follows tee

35 Pay dirt

36 BSA & GSA, e.g.

37 Curse

38 Break suddenly

39 Gehrig, for one

40 Bailey, for one

41 Frutti lead in

42 Quality of gracefulness

44 Advanced slowly

45 Stake

46 Opera singer

48 Bronze medal position

51 Serious disease

52 Magazine

55 SMART CANOE

58 Sampson, for one

59 Healer?

60 Proprietor

61 Golfclub

62 1996 Tony winner

63 _____ porridge hot . . . "

64 Swindles

Down

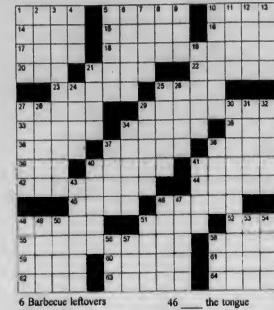
1 Insigne, for one

2 Dry-as-dust

3 GO ROB A TUNE

4 Foxy

5 Spiked the punch



6 Barbecue leftovers

7 Simba's uncle

8 Walter Raleigh, for one

9 Artist medium

10 Models

11 Hill dwellers

12 Highlander

13 Sawbucks

19 Mile run, e.g.

21 Honk

24 Prides

25 Auger

26 Justice Warren, for one

27 Pilfered

28 Flyna, for one

29 At that place

30 GONER TOMMY

31 Angry

32 Lakewarm

34 NASA concern

37 Mauled

38 Beer

40 Bamboo eater

41 _____ of the D'Urbervilles

43 Attic

DOUBLE TIME			
A	GORA	BETS	DROP
R	ROBED	AREA	AIDE
O	TWODOLLAR	WINDOW	
D	SNEERED	SINKERS	
O	YES	TENT	
B	CUKE	SRI	GEARS
E	ANY	FOUND	GREET
T	TWO	FOR THESE	SAW
S	SE	HOMER	ETA
T	TOTEM	RON	CESS
E	LIEN	ACE	
N	SADDENS	ETERNAL	
E	TWOEGGSOVEREASY		
S	OOZEE	LANE	EATEN
L	PLED	EYES	SLAON

Gator Sighting In Washington D.C.

▲ REDSKINS, page 3

running dominant offense that grinds down the field behind a stiff and stifling defense. This is going to lead to yet another season of mediocrity, if not sub-par, because the Redskins are going to have to give up lots of personnel and dip deeply in the free-agent market.

Spurrier is fanned on the college circuit. In college, coaches have failed to succeed in the young kids playing for pride, not

professionals, egomaniacs, and bitchy millionaires who want things their way or not at all. Plus, Spurrier must realize that all those quarterback scrabbles and college plays will mean absolutely squat against hard-bitten NFL professionals who have seen it all.

How many successful college coaches have failed to succeed in the pros? Mike Riley (former coach of the

San Diego Chargers), and Lou Holtz (former coach of the Jets), to site two notable examples. So, my loyal Redskins fans, I foresee hard times ahead. And for all you fair weather fans, go jump on the Rams, Bears, or Packers bandwagon because it will get you to the Super Bowl faster.

Andrew Sturm is a Sophomore.

You've Gotta Fight For Your Right To Party

▲ MUSIC, page 1

main reason why people are being killed by terrorists. What do you believe? God is on our side? This is not to say that we should tell who we are but rather that religion and government should remain separate. From a religious leader, I'm not sure I could hold more than ten delinquent that religious groups require. Why not? We make up bumper stickers that say, "Hey, I'm American you can believe whatever you want!" That is the belief for which our forefathers fought. That is what America is about. America was even founded because our ancestors were oppressed religiously in England. It is here that they sought religious freedom. The people hearing Mrs. Suosson speak tonight came from all walks of life. Some were students, while others were members of the Fredericksburg community.

Undoubtedly many religions (as well as those of us who choose not to participate in any organized religion) and cultures were represented. We were all there celebrating our ability and privilege to live in a country in which we can express our beliefs.

We don't have to believe the same thing as everyone else here. There were even people protesting Mrs. Suosson's speech, and, despite the fact she was defending their right to do so, they have that right because they live in America. To me that's what we should be patriotic about. It should not be about us saying, "God is on our side," to terrorism, but rather about our appreciation of the fact that we don't have to believe in God in America.

Beth Mills is a Junior.

Do you have an opinion or thought about a particular issue that you are just dying to share with the college community? Feel free to write a Letter to the Editor at the bullet@mwc.edu

The Weekly Wassup

What to do ... Where to go?!

Questions??? Contact OSACS @ x1061



January

Thursday 24	Friday 25	Saturday 26	Sunday 27	Monday 28	Tuesday 29	Wednesday 30
"Join in a Song: Gallery Installation by Jeremy Austin"	Showtime at the Underground	Free food, movies, and volunteer hours	Salsa and Merengue Lessons	Black Student Association	Tertulia -Spanish hour	
-Jan. 15 – March 1 -Ridderhof Gallery	-Underground -9pm – 12am -Cash Prizes	-CCC -12pm	-Goolrick, Studio 4 -2pm – 4pm	-Meeting Rm. 2 -5pm	-Westmoreland 3rd floor	
Study Abroad Info	A Night of Magic	A Night of Magic	Finance Committee	Break Dancing		
-Dodd Foyer -4pm	-duPont, Studio 115 -8.30 - 10pm	-duPont, Studio 115 -8.30 - 10pm	-Student Activities Conference Room	-Goolrick, studio 4 -7pm -8pm		
Commuting Students Association meeting	Movie Night:	Movie Night:	Movie Night:	-Dodd		
-Tan Lounge -6pm	-Dodd -7pm: The Others -10pm: Ghost World	-Dodd -7pm: Ghost World -10pm: The Others	-Dodd -2pm: The Others			
Break Dancing	-\$1	-\$1	-\$1			
-Goolrick, studio 4 -8pm						



Pulitzer Prize Winner: MLK Not Only American Civil Rights Leader

By CAROLYN MURRAY

Assistant News Editor

Pulitzer Prize winner Roger Wilkins, nephew of civil rights leader Roy Wilkins, and friend of James Farmer and Martin Luther King, stressed the importance of all the people who fought for civil rights during his Monday speech on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Wilkins began by talking about civil rights leaders and former history professor at Mary Washington College James Farmer.

"Jim was a great force for good in this country," Wilkins said to an audience of approximately 300 people. "Just as you were lucky to have him here as a colleague, I was deeply fortunate to have him most of my life as a mentor and a colleague."

According to Ametra Vashee, director of the James Farmer Multicultural Center, Wilkins' connections with James Farmer were part of the reason he was booked as the speaker. Wilkins is the nephew of Roy Wilkins, who, along with Farmer, Martin Luther King, and Whitney Young, were known as the "Big Four" civil rights leaders, according to the press release.

"Roger Wilkins is a very good fit for this celebration," Vashee said. "We bring in someone who carries a legacy."

Presently the Clarence J. Robinson Professor of History at George Mason University, Wilkins won the Pulitzer Prize, along with two colleagues, in 1972 for their coverage of Watergate. He also served as Chairman of the Pulitzer Prize Board in 1988, according to his biography in "The Crisis."

Wilkins said he believed that the credit for civil rights progress should not be attributed only to Martin Luther King, Jr.

"We diminish the massive American genius which occurred between 1947 and the end of the '60s by putting them all around one man," Wilkins said. He named civil rights leaders like Whitney Young, Jim Farmer, Roy Wilkins and John F. Kennedy as examples.

Wilkins also said he admired Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Martin was the greatest man I've ever known," Wilkins said.

Vice President for Academic Affairs and

Dean of Faculty Phil Hall, who gave the welcome address at the celebration, saw Wilkins' experience with Dr. King as plus.

"Wilkins was a very felicitous choice," Hall said. "He was able to draw upon genuine firsthand recollections of Dr. King himself. There are not many people left who were close personal friends of Dr. King."

Wilkins later addressed the danger King faced as he became more well known.

"From the day somebody bombed his shoes in 1955, every day that man woke up, he knew there were people out there who wanted to kill him," Wilkins said.

According to Vashee, Belle Wheelan, who was the original speaker for the celebration, had to cancel because of new responsibilities as Secretary of Education for Virginia. She was chosen because she crossed barriers in education, Vashee said.

"It is a great honor that we booked someone who became the Secretary of Education," Vashee said.

The cancellation was notified of the cancellation the day before the offices went on break for the holidays. Vashee said she was glad Roger Wilkins was available, as he had been a previous choice for a speaker.

"We had wanted to have him speak here before, but we couldn't book him," Vashee said. "They were very lucky."

In addition to writing for both The New York Times and The Washington Post, Wilkins has written two books, "A Man's Life," "Jefferson's Pillow" and co-authored "Quiet Riots," with Fred R. Harris. According to his biography, Wilkins is active with the NAACP as a member of the Legal Defense Fund and publisher and chairman of the NAACP journal "The Crisis," edited by his uncle from 1934 to 1949.

Wilkins also has an extensive civil service background, Vashee said. He was Assistant Attorney General during the Johnson Administration, former chair of the African-American Institute, and is a member of the Board of Education for the District of Columbia, according to a press release.

Wilkins received \$4,500 to speak at Mary Washington College. The Committee on Academic Resources, the Black Student Association, Multicultural Student Affairs and the James Farmer Multicultural Center sponsored the event.



Snow Day!

On Saturday as a snowstorm pelted the northeast, Fredericksburg received three inches of snow, causing students to head outside to throw snowballs and sled on trays "borrowed" from Seacoebeck.

Top: Freshman Emily Smith tries to avoid a snowball thrown at her by freshman Emily Woodall.

Right: Junior Dave Thorne, freshman Matt Hypes, Danielle McDonnell and Alice McClaen frolic in the snow in Ball circle.

Photos by Juliette Gomez



Separation Of Church And State Is Good For Both, ACLU President Tells College

By CAROLINE S. WALLINGER

Assistant News Editor

Government involvement in religion and religious involvement in government secularizes religions and hurts government, said Nadine Strossen, president of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Strossen spoke in Dodd Auditorium on Thursday and her lecture entitled "Why separation of Government and Religion is Good for Both Government and Religion," was the first in a new series by Mary Washington College, "Mysterium Humanum; Religion and Freedom." Strossen's speech was the keynote address for 225th Anniversary Celebration of the 1777 Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom, which was drafted in Fredericksburg by Thomas Jefferson.

"The price of mixing government and religion is to homogenize the message and destroy the sacredness of religion," Strossen said.

Strossen also praised Thomas Jefferson for his foresight and for his dedication to freedom of religious expression.

"Jefferson's ground breaking statement was ahead of his time in so many ways," Strossen said. "He was almost two centuries ahead of the United States Supreme Court."

In her lecture, Strossen countered arguments that the ACLU is a strictly liberal organization.

"We defend all religious freedoms from extreme left to extreme right," Strossen said.

She also said that the ACLU is currently representing Christian Coalition member Jerry Falwell in a case in Lynchburg, Va., concerning church property rights. The ACLU picked up Falwell's case just three weeks following his statement after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11 that "The ACLU has got to take some of the blame for [the attacks]."

According to organizers, other candidates were considered,

including former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

City Mayor Bill Beck said that another option was to invite U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to the event in addition to Strossen in order to have a debate.

Beck said that the event was just one part in a series of events to celebrate the anniversary of Jefferson's statue.

"It was a wide ranging event," Beck said. "On Sunday there was a parade on Caroline Street where the Knights of Columbus marched to the Monument to Religious Freedom. Rep. Joanne Davis spoke at that and then we had another event at the library on Monday night where Dr. Carl Marshall spoke."

Strossen has served on the advisory board of the International Centre Against Censorship, the executive committee of Human Rights Watch, she is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a founding member of Feminists for Free Expression, in addition to authoring several books. She received a \$1,000 honorarium for speaking at the college.



Nadine Strossen.

Fredericksburg Residents Protest Speech

By CAROLINE S. WALLINGER

Assistant News Editor

Carrying signs that read "Thomas Jefferson Sought Freedom of Religion, Not From Religion," and "The ACLU Prohibits the Free Exercise of Religion," sixteen protesters led by the Rev. Pat Mahoney stood outside George Washington Hall on Thursday, Jan. 17 to boycott a speech about the separation of government and religion by Nadine Strossen, president of the American Civil Liberties Union.

"We're here to celebrate the First Amendment and free expression and also to express our outrage that they [college officials] are inviting a leader of an organization that aims to crush religious expression," Mahoney said. "To us this is analogous to inviting David Duke to speak at an NAACP conference."

Mahoney, Fredericksburg resident and executive director of the Washington D.C. based Christian Defense Coalition, said that he found it inappropriate to ask Strossen to speak at the event because he says the ACLU works against the principles of free expression.

"It would be one thing for her to speak on the First Amendment, but to speak on religious freedom when the ACLU won't allow Christians to post the Ten Commandments in public places? It just doesn't make sense to me," Mahoney said. "Let's celebrate tolerance, not crush it."

Fredericksburg Mayor Bill Beck spoke with the protesters and asked them to come inside and listen to the speech.

"I wanted some of them to come in and listen because I think it is important to have a dialogue," Beck said. "At an educational institution in particular, it is important."

Mahoney said that one or two of the protesters may have gone inside but he was not certain.

Another sign displayed by the protesters depicted a cross with a circle around it and a slash through it, reading "Crossbusters" at the bottom. Mahoney said the sign had been copied down after someone saw it in an ACLU office.

When asked about the sign, Strossen said she had never seen such a poster and was certain it was not in the ACLU office. "Claims like this constitute defamation by legal definition, but out of respect for free speech I defend [the protesters'] right to utter false accusations," Strossen said.

Roger Wilkins signs a copy of his book after his speech.

Money Woes Start For MWC

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faculty searches...will continue to go forward."

According to Hurley, reaction from faculty to the plan has not been negative.

"The only reaction I have heard is that the operating budget reduction is manageable, and that some offices missed the opportunity to order their equipment but they understood the situation," Hurley said.

Warner has also recommended keeping the provision that Virginia colleges raise tuition. Hurley said he is concerned about the cost of tuition and the quality of state schools after possible cuts in the budget for higher education.

"I have a senior in high school who will be going to a state school next year," Hurley said. "I'm concerned, and I think others will be, too."

The proposal to increase tuition is also now dead, according to President Anderson. Anderson also said that the cuts will have minimal effect on the quality of education itself.

"I don't think that these [cuts] will have any impact on our instructional program," Anderson said.

According to Assistant Professor of Political Science Stephen Farnsworth, higher education will be hurt more than



Nan Freeman/Bulletin

helped by the state budget.

"Higher education is often one of the places that gets hit the hardest in the state budget," Farnsworth said. "There are more people who use roads than go to Virginia colleges."

Farnsworth predicted before the budget plan was announced that the college may face fees, if not this year then next year, and that professor salaries will probably remain frozen.

"Those sorts of things make the college at risk to lose professors to other places," Farnsworth said.

Virginia was only supposed to move forward with the car tax cut, Farnsworth said, if revenue was sufficient, and Gilmore dug the state into a hole by trying to get rid of the car tax without sufficient funds. Farnsworth also suspects that Warner will stick with many of the same proposals that Gilmore made.

"Students should be very concerned about how the car tax cut is going to hurt higher education," Farnsworth said.

Anderon, though, said he thinks the budget cuts will not have a negative impact on the college in the long run.

"I suspect we'll continue to have a flood of applications every year," Anderson said.